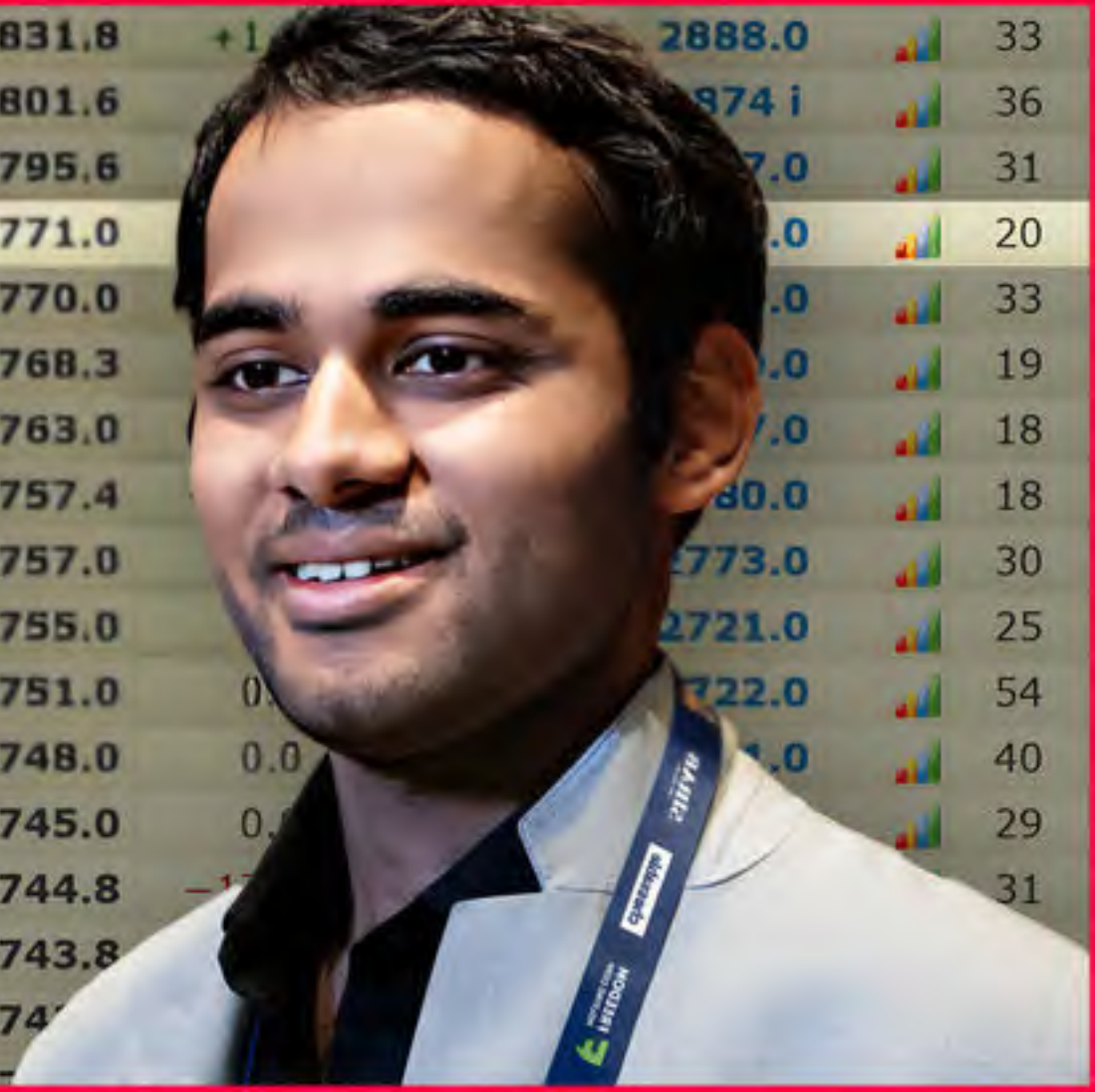
CHESS NOTES 2025)
YOUNG GUNS VOL.1

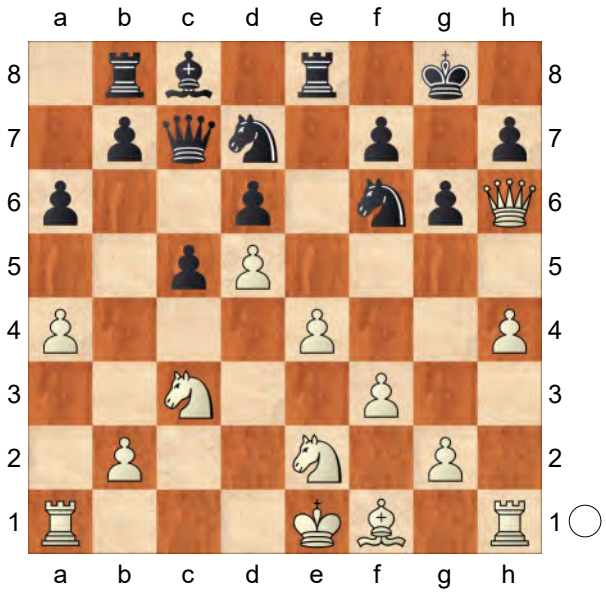
ARJUN ERIGAISI
230 ANNOTATED GAMES

1		Carlsen, Magnus		2831.8	+1		2888.0	33
2	↑1	Nakamura, Hikaru		2801.6			874 i	36
3	↓1	Caruana, Fabiano		2795.6			7.0	31
4	↑4	Erigaisi Arjun		2771.0			.0	20
5	↓1	Nepomniachtchi, Ian		2770.0			.0	33
6	↓1	Abdusattorov, Nodirbek		2768.3			.0	19
7	↓1	Gukesh D		2763.0			7.0	18
8	↑5	Praggnanandhaa R		2757.4			80.0	18
9		So, Wesley		2757.0			2773.0	30
10		Wei, Yi		2755.0			2721.0	25
11		Anand, Viswanathan		2751.0	0		722.0	54
12		Dominguez Perez, Leinie		2748.0	0.0		.0	40
13	↑1	Giri, Anish		2745.0	0			29
14		Ding, Liren		2744.8				31
15		Firouzja, Alireza		2743.8				
16	↑1	Maghsoodloo, Parham		274				
17	↓1	Mamedyarov, Shakhriya		27				



A65
□ **Praggnanandhaa,Rameshbabu 2746**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2797**
London WR Masters (3.2) 16.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

A65: Modern Benoni: 6 e4
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 c5 4.d5 e6 5.e4 d6 6.Nc3 exd5 7.cxd5 Bg7 8.Be3 0-0 9.Qd2 a6 10.a4! Qc7N
[10...Nbd7 11.Nh3
A) 11...Ne5 12.Nf2 Bd7 *(12...Nh5 13.Be2 f5 14.f4 Ng4 15.Bxg4 fxg4 16.g3 Bd7 17.a5 Re8 18.Kf1 Nf6 19.Kg2 h5 20.Rhe1 b5 21.axb6 Qxb6 22.Reb1 Qb4 23.Qc2 Re7 24.Kg1 Rae8 25.Rxa6 Nxe4 26.Ncxe4 Rxe4 27.Nxe4* Halfdanarsson (2156)-7.a4 ♕b6 (1805) Buenos Aires 9 July op 5th 2023 (2) 1-0*)* 13.Be2 b5 14.axb5 axb5 15.Rxa8 Qxa8 16.Nxb5 Bxb5 17.Bxb5 Rb8 18.Be2 Nfd7 19.Nd1 Qa4 20.Qc1 Nb6 21.Bd2 f5 22.exf5 Qh4+ 23.Nf2 gxf5 24.0-0 Nxd5 25.f4 Nf7 26.Bf3 Sukhareva,O (2570)-4. ♘c3 a6 5. ♗g5_35745 (2535) Torneo Postal de Expertos Cuba 1975 (11) 1-0;
B) 11...Qa5 12.Ra3 Ne8 13.Be2 Ne5 14.Nf2 f5 15.0-0 Nf6 16.exf5 Bxf5 17.h3 Rae8 18.Bh6 Bxh6 19.Qxh6 Qb4 20.Qd2 Nh5 21.g4 Nf4 22.gxf5 Qd4 23.Qxd4 cxd4 24.Bd1 dxc3 25.Rxc3 Chapter A50-Games Chapter A50 Game 4]
[10...Re8 11.a5 *(11.Nge2 Nbd7 12.Nc1 Ne5 13.Be2 Nh5 14.0-0 f5 15.exf5 Bxf5 16.g4 Nxg4 17.fxg4 Rxe3* 14) 3.f3-6. Nc3 #4*)* 11...b5 12.axb6 Qxb6 13.Be2 Nbd7 14.Nh3 Ne5 15.Nf2 Bd7 16.0-0 Qb4 17.Bxa6 Nc4 18.Bxc4 Qxc4 19.Bf4 Bf8 20.Bg5 Be7 21.g4 Jones,S (2578)-Barteckova,V (2331) Oesterreich 57/(46) 1993]
11.Bh6 Bxh6 12.Qxh6 Re8
White is slightly better. **13.h4 Nbd7 14.Nge2 Rb8**



15.h5! Ne5 16.Ng3 Qe7 17.Be2 c4 18.a5 0.07/22
[18.Qe3± 0.61/21]
18...b5= 19.axb6 Rxb6 20.Ra2 Bd7 21.0-0 Reb8 22.Rfa1 Bc8
[22...Rxb2 feels hotter. 23.Rxb2 Rxb2 24.Rxa6 Ne8]
23.Nd1 Nfd7 0.43/23
[23...Rb3= 0.02/22]
24.hxg6± fxg6 25.Rc1 Rb4 0.61/24
[25...Nc5!= 0.24/23]
26.Rc2 0.00/26
[26.Nf1!± 0.61/24]
26...Nc5= 27.Ne3 Qf6 28.Nh5! Pin
[28.Bxc4 Nf7 29.Qh2 *(29.Nh5? Qe5-+)* 29...Rxb2 30.Rcxb2 Rxb2 31.Rxb2 Qxb2]
[28.Nxc4? Nxc4 29.Nh5 *(29.Rxc4? Rxc4* Remove Defender *30.Bxc4 Qd4+ 31.Kh2 Qxc4-+)* 29...Qd4+

(29...gxh5? 30.Qxf6 h4 31.Rxc4+-) 30.Kh2 Ne3-+ *(30...gxh5? 31.Rxc4 Qe5+ 32.Kg1∓)*]

28...Qe7 ...c4-c3 would now be deadly.

29.Ng3 Qf6 30.Nh5! Pin

[30.Bxc4 Nf7 31.Qh1 *(31.Nh5? Qe5-+)* 31...Rxb2 32.Rcxb2 Rxb2 33.Rxb2 Qxb2-+]

[30.Nxc4? Nxc4 31.Bxc4 *(31.Rxc4? Rxc4* Remove Defender *32.Bxc4 Qd4+ 33.Kh2 Qxc4-+)* 31...Qd4+ *(31...Rxb2 32.Qe3=)* 32.Kh2 Rxc4-+]

30...Qe7 Strongly threatening ...c4-c3.

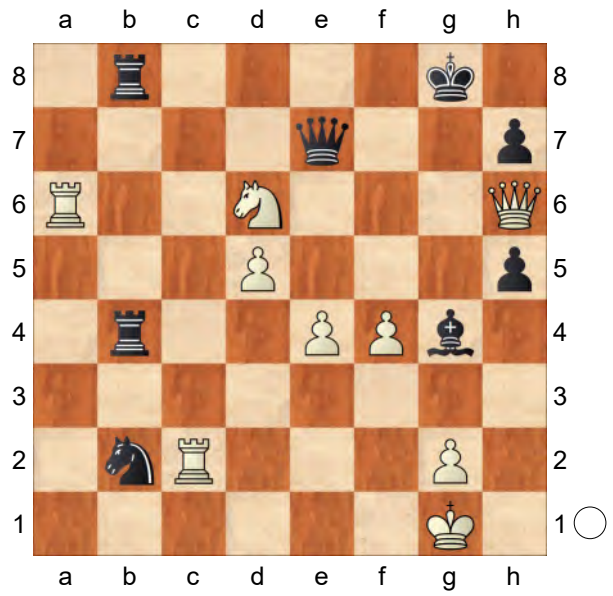
31.f4 Deflection **31...Ned3 32.Nxc4 gxh5 33.Nxd6** 0.00/27

[33.Ra3!± 0.44/24 Nf2 34.Kxf2 *(34.Nxd6 Nfxe4 35.Nxe4 Nxe4∓)*]

33...Bg4 And now ...Rb8-b6 would win.

34.Bxd3 Nxd3 35.Rxa6 Hoping for f4-f5. **35...Nxb2?** 3.61/25

[35...Rxb2= 0.00/27 36.Rxb2 Nxb2]



36.Qg5+? 0.00/26

Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.30

[Only move: 36.f5!+- 3.61/25 Rxe4 37.Nxe4 Bxf5 38.Rxb2 *(38.Nf6+ Kh8+-)*]

½-½

C70

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2797**

■ **Praggnanandhaa,Rameshbabu 2746**

London WR Masters (3.1) 16.10.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C70: Ruy Lopez: 3...a6 4 Ba4, Norwegian and Delayed Schliemann

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 b5 5.Bb3 Na5 6.0-0 d6 7.Re1N 0.19/24

[7.d4± 0.72/21 exd4 8.Nxd4

A) 8...Bb7 9.c4 *(9.Bd2 Nxb3 10.Nxb3 Ne7 11.Re1 Nc6 12.Nc3 Be7 13.a4 b4 14.Nd5 a5 15.c3 0-0 16.cxb4 axb4 17.Nxb4 Nxb4 18.Bxb4 c5 19.Bc3 f5 20.Nxc5 dxc5 21.Qb3+ Rf7 22.Qxb7 Bh4 23.Qb3 fxe4* 6.c3 ♘c6 7.♘f3 ♗e7-Juan Lepp,J ch Astana KAZ 2007 1-0 *)* 9...c5 10.Nc2 Nf6 11.Nc3 Be7 12.Ne3 Nxe4 13.Nxe4 Bxe4 14.Qg4 Bg6 15.cxb5 Nxb3 16.axb3 axb5 17.Rxa8 Qxa8 18.f4 C 70/04 1997;

B) 8...Nxb3 9.axb3 Bb7 10.Nc3 g6 11.Re1 Bg7 12.Bf4 Ne7 13.Nd5 c6 14.Nxe7 Qxe7 15.Nf5 gxf5 16.Bxd6 Qd7 17.exf5+ Kd8 18.Qg4 Vogt,L (2500)-Stein,B (2415) II 50/(356) Dortmund 1990]

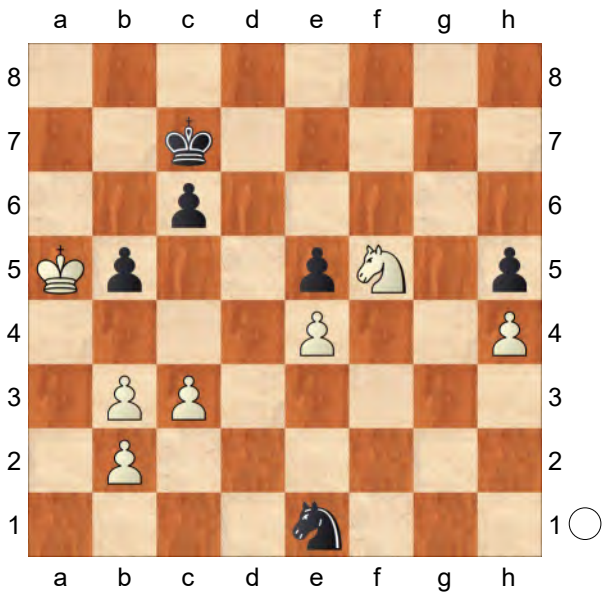
[7.c3 Nxb3 8.axb3 Nf6 9.Re1 Bb7 10.d4 Nxe4 11.Qc2 Nf6 12.dxe5 dxe5 13.Rxe5+ Be7 14.Qe2 Kf8 15.Bg5 Bd6 16.Re3 h6 17.Bh4 g5 18.Bg3 Nd5 19.Rd3 Qf6 20.Bxd6+ cxd6 21.Qd1 Nf4 Chapter-Games Chapter 4 Game 1]

7...Nxb3 8.axb3 g5 9.d3 White is

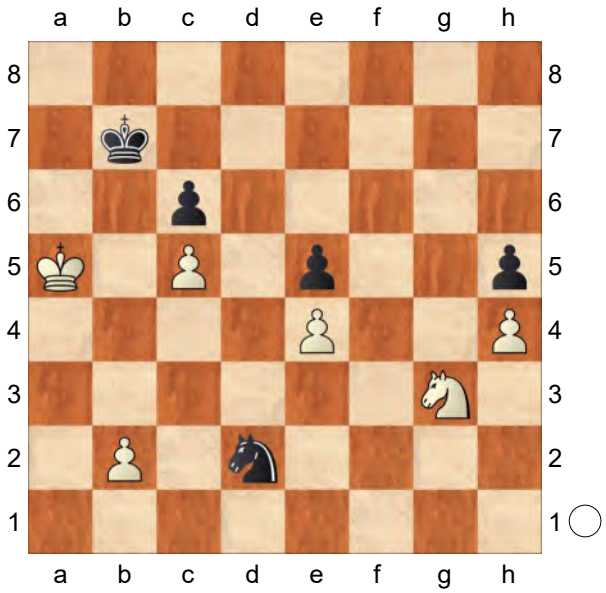
slightly better. **9...g4 10.Nfd2 Qf6** 0.77/24
[10...Ne7= 0.15/22]
11.Nc3 c6 12.Nf1 Ne7 13.Be3 Bg7 14.Qd2 Rb8 1.23/23
[14...h5!± 0.33/20]
15.Red1 0.62/25
[15.Ne2± 1.23/23]
15...Qg6 1.02/21
[15...b4± 0.62/25]
16.d4!± 0-0 17.dxe5 Bxe5 18.Bf4 h5 19.Bxe5 dxe5 20.Qd6 0.70/20
[Better is 20.Qe3± 1.15/21]
20...Qxd6± 21.Rxd6 Be6 22.Rxa6 Ra8 23.Rxa8 Rxa8 24.f3 gxf3 25.gxf3 Kg7 26.Kf2 Ra1 27.Rd1 Rxd1 28.Nxd1± Endgame. KBN-KNN **28...f5 29.exf5 Bxf5 30.Nde3 Bg6 31.Ng3 Kf6** 1.02/24
[31...Kf7± 0.57/27]
32.h4 0.27/32
[32.Ne4+± 1.02/24 Ke6 33.Nc5+ Kf6 34.Ke2]
32...Nc8 33.Ke2 Nd6 34.Kd2 Nb7 35.Kc3 Strongly threatening Kc3-b4.
35...Nc5! 36.Kb4 Ne6 37.c3 Ke7 0.71/26
[37...Ng5!= 0.11/28 keeps the balance.]
38.Ne4 Bxe4?? 3.96/20
[38...Kd8± 0.36/23]
39.fxe4± KN-KN **39...Kd6 40.Nf5+ Kc7 41.Ng3! Nf4 42.Ka5** And now c3-c4 would win. **42...Ng2 43.Nf5**
[Weaker is 43.Nxh5 Nxh4 44.c4 bxc4±]
43...Ne1

(Diagram)

44.c4? 0.52/25
[44.Ka6!+- 2.18/31]
44...bxc4 45.bxc4 Nf3 46.c5



Black must now prevent b2-b4. **46...Nd2 47.Ng3** 0.12/30
[47.Nd6± 0.61/28]
47...Kb7? 6.69/30
[47...Nc4+= 0.12/30 48.Kb4 Nxb2]



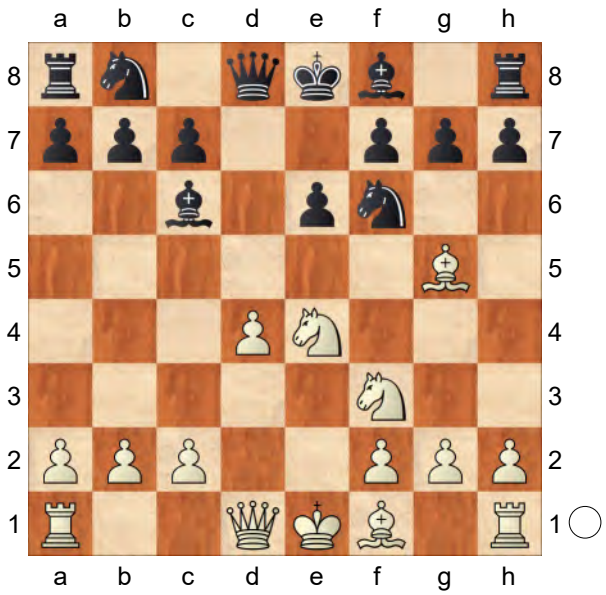
48.b4!+-
[Less strong is 48.Nxh5 Nf3±]
48...Nb3+ 49.Ka4 Nd4 50.Nxh5 Nf3 51.Nf6? 1.29/19
[51.Ng7+- 6.83/32 has better winning chances.]
51...Nxh4± 52.b5 0.00/35

[52.Ne8± 1.29/34 Nf3 53.Ka5]
52...Nf3= 53.b6 Ng5! 54.Ka5 aiming for Nf6-e8. **54...Ne6 55.Kb4** Hoping for Nf6-e8.
[55.Nd7!?]
55...Ng5! 56.Kc4
[56.Kc3!?]
56...Ka6? 7.54/31
[56...Kb8= 0.00/34]
57.Kd3 Ne6 58.Nd7 Kb7 59.Kc4!
[Not 59.Nxe5 Nxc5+ 60.Kc4 Kxb6=]
59...Ng5 60.Nxe5 Nxe4 61.Nf7 Nf7-d6+ would now be deadly. **61...Nd2+ 62.Kb4 Kc8 63.Ne5 Kb7 64.Nc4 Ne4 65.Na5+** Deflection **65...Ka6 66.Nxc6 Nf6 67.Ka4 Ne4 68.Nb4+ Kb7 69.Kb5** Intending c5-c6+ and mate. **69...Nc3+ 70.Ka5**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/ Black=0.40
1-0

C10

□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime 2735**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2797**
London WR Masters (4.1) 17.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C10: French with 3 Nc3: Unusual Black 3rd moves and 3...dxe4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Bd7
[5...Be7 6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.Nf3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nd7 9.0-0-0 b6 10.Bc4 Bb7 11.d5 b5 12.Bb3 c5 13.Nd6 Bxd5 14.Bxd5 exd5 15.Qxd5 Nb6 16.Qf5 g6 17.Qf4 Bg7 18.Rhe1 Qc7 19.Qh4 Rad8 20.Nxb5 Waterman,D (2630)-3.e5 Bf5 4.Nc3 Qb6 5.Nf3 (2604) OLO-B 1995 (5) 1-0]
[5...Nbd7 6.Nf3 h6 7.Nxf6+ Nxf6 8.Bxf6 Qxf6 9.Bb5+ c6 10.Bd3 Bd7 11.Qe2 Bd6 12.0-0 0-0-0 13.b4 Rhe8 14.Rfe1 Classical 4 Bg5 dxe4:-5...Nbd7 & 4...h6 French Defence 2024]
6.Nf3 Bc6



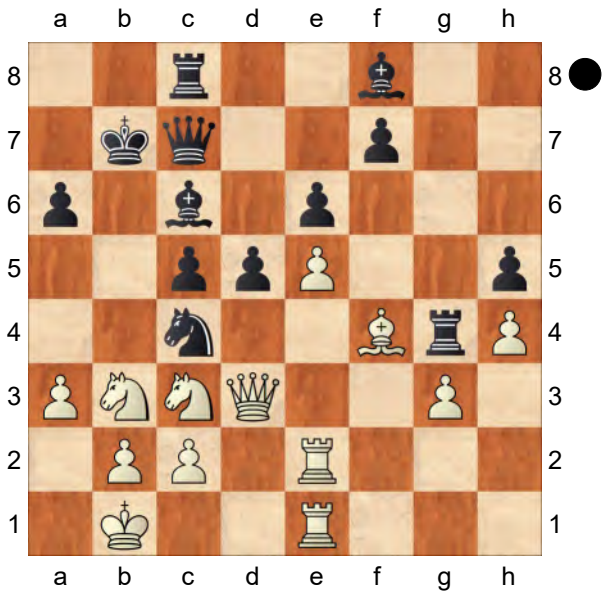
7.Bd3! White is more active. **7...Be7 8.Ned2N**
[8.Bxf6 Bxf6 9.c3 Nd7 10.Qe2 Bxe4 11.Qxe4 c6 12.0-0 g6 13.Rad1 0-0 14.Rfe1 Qb6 15.Qe2 Rfd8 16.Bc4 Qc7 17.Bb3 a5 18.a3 Kg7 19.Ba2 Nb6 20.Nd2 Nd5 21.Ne4 Be7 22.c4 Nf6 11.♘b5 ab5 12.♗b5 ♗b7 (2421)-Peters,T (2446) St Petersburg op 1994 (5) 1-0]
8...Nbd7 9.0-0 h6 White has an edge. **10.Be3 0-0 11.c4 b6 12.Qe2 Bb7 13.Rfd1 c5 14.Ne5 cxd4 15.Bxd4 Qc7 16.Ndf3 Rad8 17.Bc2** The position is equal. **17...Bc5 18.Bc3 Nxe5 19.Nxe5 Rxd1+ 20.Rxd1 Rd8 21.Rxd8+ Qxd8 22.Ng4 Nxg4 23.Qxg4 Qg5 24.Qxg5 hxg5=** Endgame. KBB-KBB **25.h3 f5 26.b4 Be7 27.f3 Kf7 28.Kf2 Bf6 29.Bd2 Bd4+ 30.Ke2 Kf6**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07

(flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

C11

□ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2726**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2797**
London WR Masters (2.1) 15.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

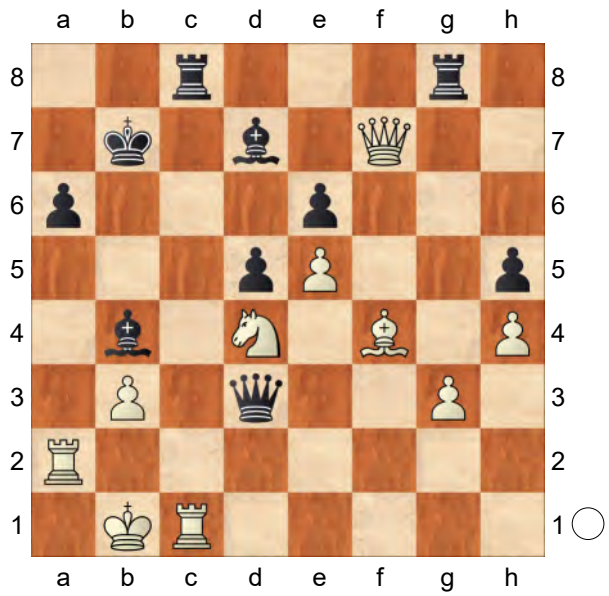
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 h6 8.Qd2 g5 9.dxc5
[9.fxg5?! cxd4 10.Nxd4 Ndxe5=]
9...gxf4 White is better. **10.Bxf4 Nxc5N**
[10...a6 11.0-0-0 Nxc5 12.Qf2 b5 13.Be3 Nd7 14.Be2 Qa5 15.Rhf1 b4 16.Nb1 Qc7 17.Nbd2 Bb7 18.Nb3 Bg7 19.Nfd4 Ncxe5 20.Qg3 Rg8 21.Nxe6 fxe6 22.Bh5+ Kd8 23.Nd4 Nd3+ 24.Rxd3 Qxg3 25.hxg3 Chapter-Games Chapter 27 Game 3]
11.Bd3 0.40/23
[11.Be2± 0.83/20]
11...Qb6± 12.0-0-0 Bd7 13.Be3 Qa5 14.Kb1 0-0-0 15.Bb5 Be8 16.a3 Nd7! 17.Rhe1 a6 18.Bxc6 bxc6 Black is weak on the dark squares **19.Bf2** Strongly threatening Bf2-h4. **19...Kb7 20.Nd4** White wants to play Nd4-b3. **20...Qc7 21.Nb3** Nc3-a4 is the strong threat. A dynamic duo of knights. **21...Rg8 22.g3** Nc3-a4 would now be deadly. **22...Rc8 23.Re2** -0.58/20
[23.Be3= -0.22/18 feels stronger.]
23...Rg6 24.Qf4 -1.09/20
[24.Be3∓ -0.37/20]
24...c5∓ 25.h4 -1.33/18
[⌓25.Qd2 -0.94/19]
25...h5 26.Rde1 Nb6 27.Qf3 Rg4 28.Be3 Nc4
[28...Qxe5? 29.Bxc5 Rxg3 30.Qf2+- *(30.Bxf8 Rxf3 31.Rxe5 Nd7±)*]
29.Bf4 Bc6 30.Qd3



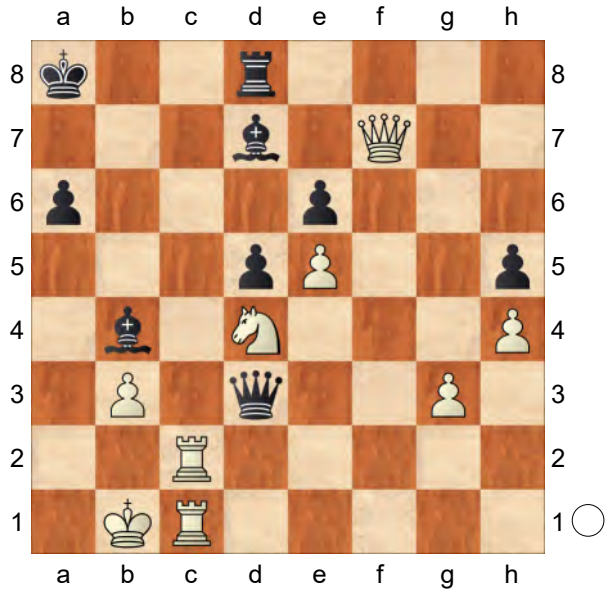
Nxa3+! 31.bxa3 c4! Discovered Attack, Double Attack **32.Qd4 cxb3 33.cxb3 Bxa3 34.Ra2 Be7** -0.85/19
[⌓34...Qe7 -1.23/28 aiming for ...Qe7-b4. 35.Rc2 Qb4 36.Qxb4+ Bxb4]
35.Rc1 Bd7 -0.14/25
[35...Qd8!∓ -1.02/22 36.Na4 Bxa4 37.Rxc8 Qxc8 38.bxa4 a5]
36.Qd3= Qb6 37.Qh7! Prevents Be7xh4 **37...Bb4**
[37...Qxb3+? loses. 38.Rb2+-]
38.Ne2 Rgg8 39.Qxf7 Qb5 40.Nd4 Qd3+ 1.49/23
[40...Rgf8!= 0.00/25 41.Nxb5 Rxc1+ 42.Kxc1 Rxf7]

(Diagram)

41.Rac2!± Rgd8 42.Bg5! Some like it hot. White is more active. **42...Ka8**
[Don't blunder 42...Rxc2? 43.Rxc2 Qxd4 44.Bxd8 Qd1+ 45.Kb2+-]



43.Bxd8 Rxd8



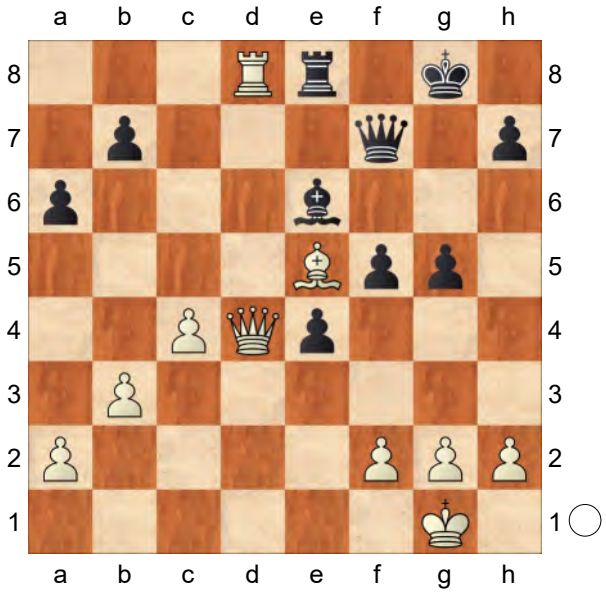
44.Nxe6 0.00/37
[44.Qf2!± 1.43/26]
44...Qxb3+= The position is equal.
45.Rb2 Qd3+ 46.Rcc2
[46.Ka2!? Qa3+□ 47.Kb1 Qd3+ 48.Rbc2 Qb3+ 49.Rb2 Qd3+=]
46...Rc8 47.Qxd7 Rxc2 48.Rxc2 Ne6-c7+ would kill now. **48...Qb3+ 49.Rb2 Qd3+ 50.Ka1 Qa3+ 51.Kb1** Threatening mate with Ne6-c7+. **51...Qd3+ 52.Rc2** Intending Ne6-c7+ and mate. **52...Qb3+ 53.Rb2 Qd3+**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.09 (flawless)
½-½

C67
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2797**
■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2726**
London WR Masters (2.2) 15.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6! 6.Ba4 -0.24/26
[⌓6.dxe5 0.17/24 Nxb5 7.a4]
6...e4 7.Re1 Be7 8.Ne5 The position is equal. **8...0-0 9.Nc3 f5 10.Bf4!?** Leaves trodden paths.Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. **10...Nxe5 11.dxe5 Nf7 12.Bb3! Kh8 13.Bxf7 Rxf7 14.Qh5N** -0.52/20
[14.Nd5= 0.07/22 d6 *(14...Bf8 15.Qh5 g6 16.Bg5 gxh5 17.Bxd8 c6 18.Nc7 Rb8 19.Rad1 Bb4 20.c3 Ba5 21.b4 Bb6 22.c4 c5 23.b5 h6 24.Rd6 Kh7 25.Re3 Rf8 26.Rxb6 axb6 27.Be7 Rg8 28.Bd6 Rg6 29.Ra3* 14.h5 ♘h5 15.g4 ♘f6 16.î (2290)-Garcia Hernandez,O (2489) USA ch-8 corr CCLA 1989 1-0*)*
15.Nxe7 Remove Defender Qxe7 16.exd6 cxd6 17.f3 *(17.Qxd6 Qxd6 18.Bxd6 Be6+-; 17.Bxd6 Qe8=)*]
14...Kg8N 0.08/19
[14...Qf8 0.00/23 14...Qd8-e8 -0.50 15.Rad1 -0.47/19 *(15.Nb5!= 0.00/23)* 15...b6 0.48/25 *(15...c6∓ -0.47/19)* 16.Nd5 -0.19/20 *(16.Nb5!± 0.48/25)* 16...Bd8= 17.Bg5! Strongly threatening Bg5xd8. g6 18.Qh4 Bxg5 0.32/19 *(Black should play 18...Bb7!= -0.24/25)* 19.Qxg5±

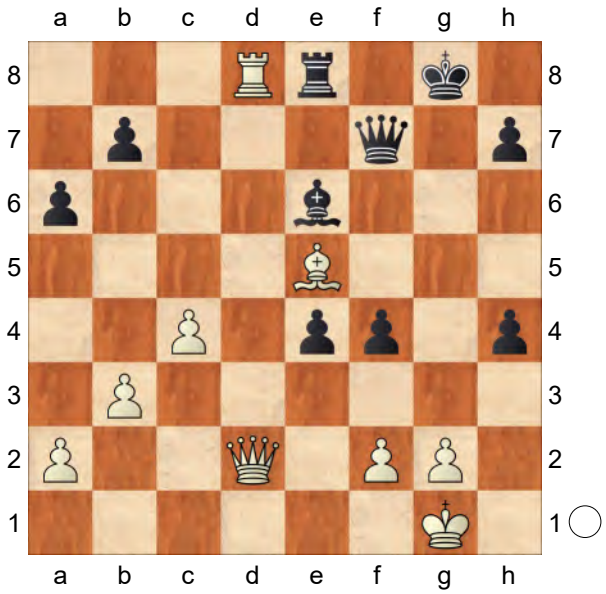
e5-e6 would now be deadly. d6 20.Nf4 Bb7 21.exd6 cxd6 Naroditsky,D (2622)-Ippolito,D (2381) Charlotte op 2023 (6) 1-0]
[14...Qe8∓ -0.52/20]
15.Nd5= d6⇄ Black is not keeping still
16.Rad1 Black is weak on the dark squares
[16.Nxe7+ simplifies Qxe7 17.exd6 cxd6 18.Rad1]
16...Be6 17.Nxe7+ Remove Defender
17...Qxe7 18.exd6 cxd6 19.Rxd6 Rd8 20.Red1 Rxd6 21.Rxd6 Rf8 22.Qd1 Re8 23.Qd4 a6 24.c4 Qf7 25.b3 Re7 26.Rd8+ Re8 27.Be5 g5 1.52/24
[27...h5± 0.32/23]



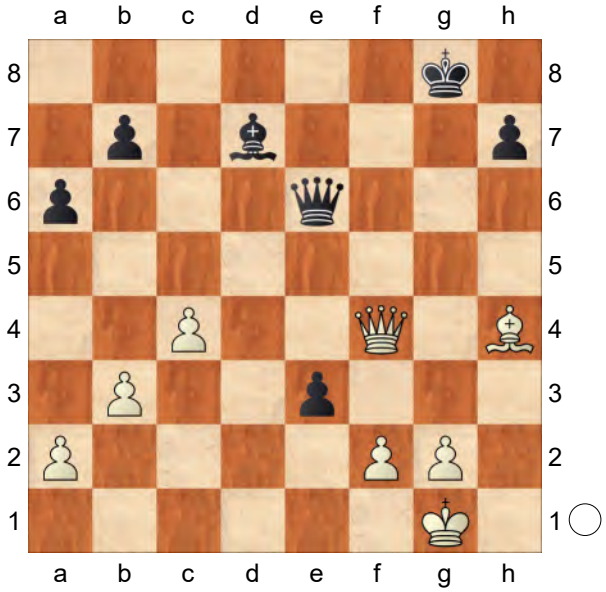
28.h4! gxh4 29.Qd2! White is more active. **29...f4** 1.78/24
[29...e3± 1.33/24 might work better. 30.Qxe3 *(30.fxe3 Qf8±)* 30...Bd7 31.Qg5+ Qg6 32.Qxh4 Rxd8 33.Qxd8+ Qe8 34.Qxe8+ Bxe8]

(Diagram)

30.Bxf4 1.25/22



[30.Bc3!+- 1.78/24 White threatens Qd2-d4 and mate. Qg6 31.Rxe8+ Qxe8 32.Qxf4]
30...Qe7± 31.Rxe8+ Qxe8 Endgame. KQB-KQB **32.Bh6** White wants to mate with Qd2-g5+. **32...Qe7 33.Qf4** Threatens to win with Qf4-e5! **33...Bd7 34.Bg5 Qe6 35.Bxh4**
[35.Qxh4 Qg4 36.Qxg4 Bxg4±]
35...e3 2.26/24



36.f3!+-
[36.fxe3 Bc6 37.Bg3 Qe4 38.Qg5+ Kf7]

[36.Qxe3?! Qxe3 37.fxe3 Bf5±]
36...e2 37.Be1 Qb6+ 38.Kh2 Qg6 39.Qd2 Qe6 40.Kg1
[40.Qg5+ Kf7 41.Kg3 Qg6 42.Qxg6+ hxg6=]
40...b5 41.c5 a5 42.Kf2 b4? 3.39/21
[42...a4 1.87/19 keeps fighting. 43.Qd4 *(43.Qxe2 axb3 44.axb3 Qxb3±)* 43...h5]
43.Qg5+
[43.Qxe2 Qxe2+ 44.Kxe2 Kf7±]
43...Kf7 44.Qf4+ Kg6 3.52/22
[⌓44...Qf6 2.37/21 45.Qc7 Qh4+ 46.g3 *(46.Kxe2 Qe7+ 47.Kf2 Bb5+-)* 46...Qh2+ 47.Ke3 Ke8]
45.Qg3+ Kf6 46.Qc7 Qd5 47.Qxa5 Qd4+ 48.Kxe2 Qe5+ 49.Kf1 Bf5 50.Qxb4 Black must now prevent Be1-c3. **50...Bd3+ 51.Kf2**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.29 (precise)
1-0

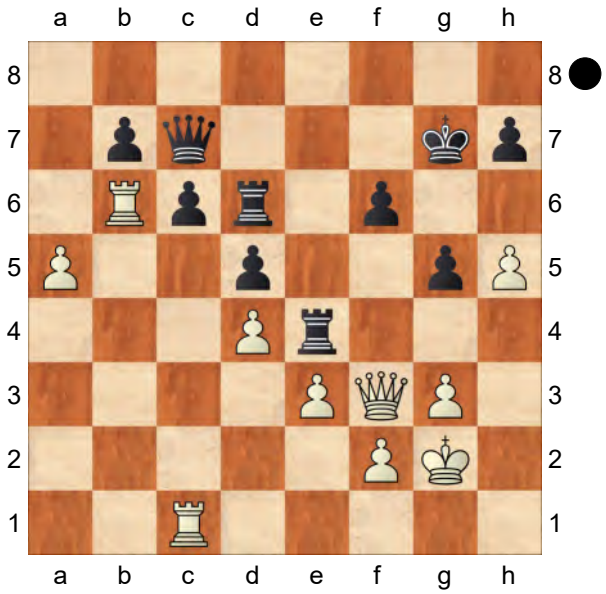
D35
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2797**
■ **Wei,Yi** **2763**
London TechM GCL rapid (8.2) 09.10.24
[Kitty Kat]

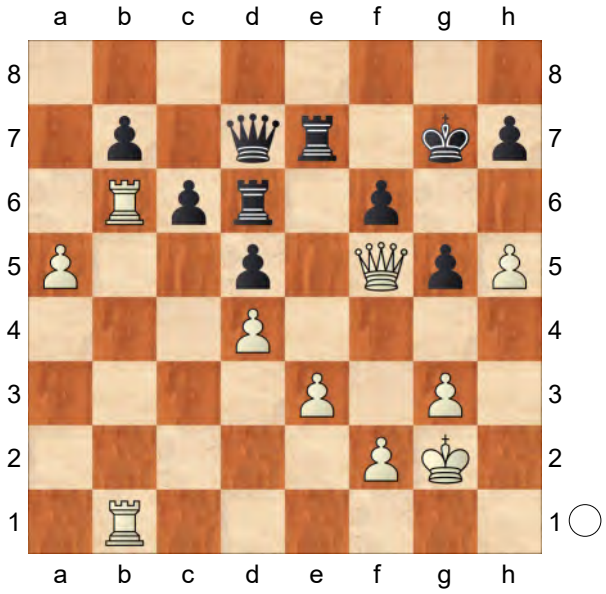
D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nc3 c6 6.Bf4 Bf5 7.e3 Nbd7 8.h3 Qb6 9.Bd3! is now more promising than 9.Qc1.im Vergleich zu 9. Dc1 vielversprechender. **9...Bxd3** The position is equal. **10.Qxd3 Be7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Na4N** An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.
[12.a3 a5 13.Qc2 Rfe8 14.Rfc1 Qa6 15.b3 Bf8 16.Nd2 Re6 17.Ra2 Qb6 18.Rb1 Xu,X (2637)-Zeng,C (2590) CHN-ch Xinghua 2024 (8) ½-½]
12...Qb4 13.Qc2 a5 14.Rfc1 Rfe8 15.Rab1 Qc4 16.Qd1 Qa6 17.Ne1 Ne4 18.Nd3 Bd6 19.Bxd6 Nxd6 20.Nac5 Nxc5 21.Nxc5 Qb6 22.a4 Ne4 23.Nd3 Qc7 24.Rc2 Nd6 25.b3 Qe7 26.Qe1 Ra7 27.Rc5 Qd8 28.Rb2 Ne4 29.Rc1 Nd6 30.Re2 Qb6 31.Rb1 Qc7 32.Ne5 Raa8 33.Rc2 f6 0.30/21
[33...g6 -0.10/31 should be considered.]
34.Nd3= Ra7 35.Re2 Re7 36.Qc3 Ne4 37.Qb2 Nd6 38.Rbe1 Ra8 39.Rc1 Qb6 40.Qc2 Rae8 41.Qd1 Nf5 42.Rb2 Nd6 43.h4 g6 44.h5 Kg7 45.Qg4 Qd8 46.Nc5 Ne4 47.b4 axb4 48.Rxb4 Nxc5 49.Rxc5 Qd7 50.Qf3
[50.Qxd7 simplifies Rxd7 51.hxg6 hxg6 52.Ra5]
50...g5 51.a5 Re4 52.Rb6 Qc7? 3.20/23
[Black should try 52...Ra8± 0.55/18]
53.g3 1.57/19
[53.h6++- 3.20/23 and White stays clearly on top. Kg6 54.Rxd5]
53...R8e6? 3.99/22 This costs Black the game.
[53...Rf8± 1.57/19 54.Rc1 Re7]
54.Kg2+- Rd6 55.Rc1

(Diagram)

Black must now prevent Rc1-b1.
55...Re7 56.Qf5 Against Qc7-c8
56...Qd8? 6.86/24
[56...Kh6 3.46/23 57.g4 Qd7 58.Qxd7 Rdxd7]
57.Rcb1 White is clearly winning.
57...Qd7

(Diagram)





58.h6+! Kg8
[58...Kf8 59.Qc2]
59.Qxd7 Rdxd7 Endgame. KRR-KRR **60.a6** Deflection **60...bxa6 61.Rxc6 Ra7 62.Rxf6 Re8** Wards off Rb1-b8 **63.Rf5 a5 64.Rxg5+ Kf8 65.Rxd5 a4 66.Ra1 a3 67.Ra2 Kf7 68.Rb5 Re6 69.Rb3 Rea6 70.f4 Kg6 71.Kf3 Kxh6 72.g4 Kg7 73.e4 Rh6 74.Kg3** Prevents Rh6-h3+
[74.Rbxa3? too greedy. Rh3+ *(74...Rxa3+? 75.Rxa3 Rh3+* Skewer *76.Kf2-+)* 75.Ke2 Rhxa3 *(75...Raxa3? 76.Rxa3 Rxa3 77.d5-+)* 76.Rxa3 Rxa3-+]
[74.Raxa3? loses. Rxa3 75.Rxa3 Rh3+ 76.Ke2 Rxa3-+]
74...Rha6 75.f5 Ra4 76.Kf4 h6 77.Rd3 Kf7 78.g5 hxg5+ 79.Kxg5 Ra8 80.Kf4 Ke7 81.e5 Kf7 82.Ke4 Ke7 83.Rh3 Kd7 84.f6 Ke6 85.Rh7 R8a7 Inhibits Rh7-e7+. **86.Rxa3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.31
1-0

B03
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2797**
■ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2783**
London TechM GCL rapid (7.3) 08.10.24
[Kitty Kat]

B03: Alekhine's Defence: Four Pawns Attack
1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 Nb6 5.f4 dxe5 6.fxe5 c5 7.d5 g6 7...e6 is vanishing.7...e6 scheint zu verschwinden. **8.Nc3!** The main line 8. Nc3 scores better than 8.Nf3. Die Hauptvariante 8.Sc3 punktet besser als 8.Sf3. **8...Bg7 9.Bf4 0-0 10.Bd3N** 0.50/21
[10.Qd2± 0.95/20 e6 11.0-0-0 exd5 12.cxd5 Bg4 *(12...Re8 13.Bg5 f6 14.exf6 Bxf6 15.Nf3* 12...Re8 1) 13.Re1 c4 14.h3 Bf5 15.g4 Bd3 16.Bxd3 cxd3 17.Qxd3 Na6 18.d6 Rc8 19.Kb1 Nb4 20.Qd1 Nc4 21.Rh2 Qa5 22.Nf3 Rc5 23.Rhe2 h6 24.Nd4 Nd5 25.Ne4 Nowroozian, N (2624)-12. ♗f2 g5 13. ♖c1 (2533) Alushta 2000 1-0]
[10.Qe2 N8d7 11.0-0-0 a6 12.h4 Qc7 13.Nf3 e6 14.d6 Qc6 15.h5 Na4 16.Ne4 b5 17.hxg6 fxg6

18.Bh6 bxc4 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.Nfg5 h5 21.Nxe6+ Kg8 22.Nxf8 Nxf8 23.Qxc4+ Be6 24.Nf6+ Kg7 Paglilla,C (2313)-14.c4 bc4 15. ♗c4 00 16.♖a (1984) EU-chT (Men) 16th 2007 (5) 1-0]

[10.Nf3 Bg4 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 N8d7 13.Qe3 Qb8 14.e6 Ne5 15.exf7+ Rxf7 16.Bh2 Nexc4 17.Bxc4 Nxc4 18.Qxc5 Qc8 19.Qxc8+ Rxc8 20.0-0-0 Nxb2 21.Kxb2 Rxc3 22.Kb1 Rf2 23.Bg1 Rxg2 24.Bd4 Rcc2 Chapter Part-Games Chapter 5 Part 1]

10...e6⩲ White is slightly better. **11.d6 Nc6 12.Nf3 f6** 1.33/20

[12...Nd7!⩲ 0.49/19]

13.Ne4 0.87/21

[⌓13.exf6 1.33/20 Bxf6 14.Ne4]

13...Nd7± And now ...f6-f5 would win. **14.0-0N** -1.28/19 White is much more active.

[14.Qe2! Ndxe5 15.Nxe5 fxe5 16.Bg5 Qa5+ 17.Bd2 Qb6 18.0-0-0 Nd4 19.Qg4 Strongly threatening h2-h4. Bd7 1.32/20 *(⌓19...Rb8* 0.83/20 *)* 20.h4! Malienko,A (2260)-Struk,N Kiev-ch 1998 (4) 1-0]

[14.Qe2± 0.80/22 keeps the pressure on.]

14...f5!∓ 15.Bg5 Qe8 16.Nf6+ Nxf6 17.exf6 Bxf6 -0.52/21

[17...Rxf6∓ -1.16/23 18.Qd2 Bd7 19.Bxf6 Bxf6]

18.Bxf6∓ Rxf6 19.Bc2! Bd7 White must now prevent ...e6-e5. **20.Re1** -1.14/22

[20.Ba4!∓ -0.61/23]

20...Rd8 21.Qd2 -1.67/21

[21.Ba4∓ -1.13/21]

21...e5 -1.18/23

[21...Qf8-+ -1.67/21 22.Rad1 Be8]

22.Nxe5 -2.44/25 **Nxe5-+ 23.Qd5+ Qe6 24.Rxe5 Qxd5 25.cxd5**

[Reject 25.Rxd5 Bc6 26.Re5 Rfxd6-+]

25...Rxd6 26.Rae1 Kf8 27.Kf2 Bb5 28.Re7 R8d7

[Don't do 28...Rxd5 29.Rxh7 Rd2+ 30.Kg3]

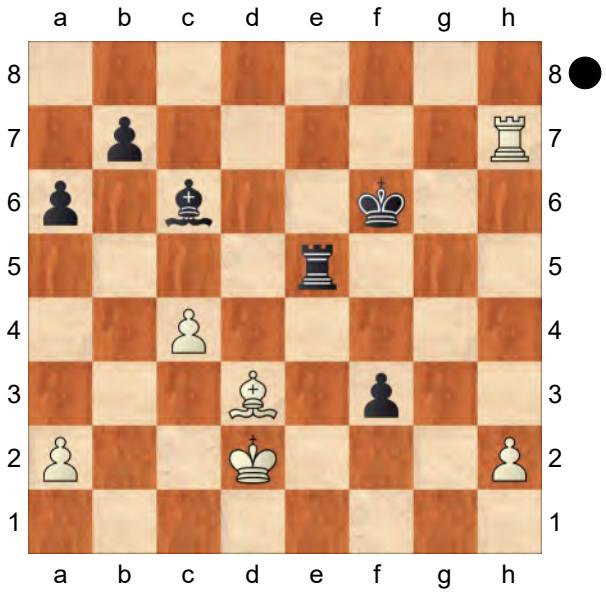
29.Re8+ Kf7 30.Rc8 c4

[Don't take 30...Rxd5 31.Bb3 c4 32.Bxc4 Bxc4 33.Rxc4∓]

31.b3 Rxd5 32.bxc4 Rd2+ Skewer, Double Attack **33.Re2 Bc6 34.g3 Rxe2+ 35.Kxe2** Endgame. KRB-KRB **35...Ke6 36.Ke3 Ke5 37.Re8+ Kf6 38.Ra8 Re7+ 39.Kd2 a6 40.Bd3 Kg5 41.Be2 Re5 42.Rh8 Kh6 43.Bd1 g5 44.Bc2** -2.64/20

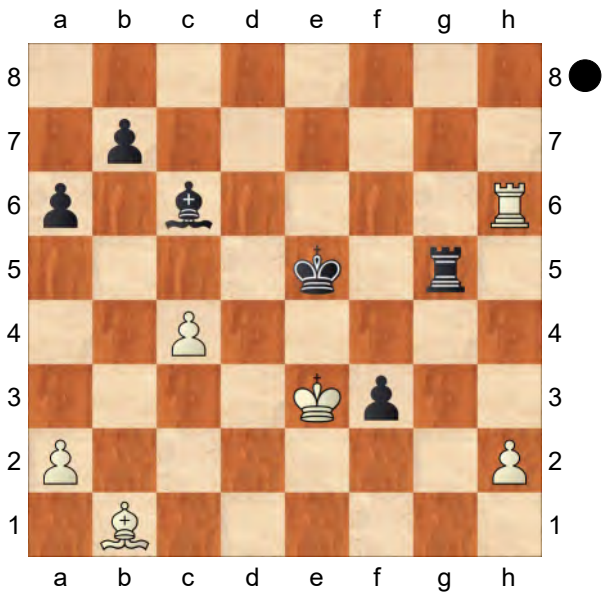
[⌓44.Rc8 -1.98/19]

44...Kg7 45.Rc8 f4 46.Rc7+ Kf6 47.gxf4 gxf4 48.Rxh7 f3 49.Bd3 Prevents Re5-e2+ **49...Ra5! 50.Bb1 Re5 51.Bd3**



Inhibits Re5-e2+. **51...Ra5! 52.Bb1 Rg5 53.Rh6+ Ke5** Hoping for ...f3-f2. **54.Ke3**

(Diagram)



Rg1 -0.29/22
[54...Rg2!∓ -1.02/22 aiming for ...Rg2-e2+. 55.Rh5+ Kf6]
55.Rh5+= Kf6 56.Bd3 Re1+ 57.Kd4 Rd1 ...Rd1xd3+! is the strong threat. **58.Rf5+!** The position is equal. **58...Ke6 59.Rf8 Rd2 60.h4 Rxa2 61.Be4! Bxe4 62.Kxe4** KR-KR **62...Ra4 63.Kd3 Ra3+ 64.Kd4 Kd6**
[64...b6 simplifies 65.h5 Ra5 66.Rxf3 Rxh5 67.Rg3 Rh6]
65.h5 Ra5 66.Rf6+
[66.Rxf3 simplifies Rxh5 67.Rf6+ Kc7 68.Rf7+]
66...Kc7 67.h6
[67.Rxf3 simplifies Rxh5 68.Rf7+ Kb6 69.Rf6+]
67...Rh5 68.Ke3
[68.Rxf3 simplifies Rxh6 69.Rf7+ Kc6 70.Kc3]
68...Rh3 69.Rxf3 Rxh6 70.Kd4 Rh4+ 71.Kc3 Rh5 72.Rf6 Kb8 73.Kb4 Ka7 74.Re6 Rh4 75.Kc3 Rh3+ 76.Kb4 Rh1 77.Rf6 Re1 78.Kc3 Re5 79.Kb4 Kb8 80.Rf7 Re6 81.Rg7 Rc6 82.Rf7 Rd6 83.Rg7 Kc8 84.Rg8+ Kc7 85.Rg7+ Kc6 86.Rg8 Re6 87.Rc8+ Kb6 88.Rg8 a5+ 89.Kc3 Ka6 90.Ra8+ Kb6 91.Kd4 Re1 92.Rg8 Rd1+ 93.Kc3 Rc1+ 94.Kb3 Rb1+ 95.Kc3 Ka7 96.Rg5 Ka6 97.Rg6+ b6 98.Rg8 Rc1+ 99.Kb3 Kb7 100.Rg7+ Ka6 101.Rg8 Rf1 102.Kc3 Rf3+ 103.Kd4 Rf7 104.Kd5 Rc7 105.Kd4 Kb7 106.Kd3 Re7 107.Kd4 Kc6 108.Rg6+ Kb7 109.c5 bxc5+ 110.Kxc5 Re5+ 111.Kc4 Rf5 112.Kb3 Rf4 113.Ka3 Rb4 114.Rh6 Rb6 115.Rxb6+ Kxb6 116.Ka4 Ka6 117.Ka3 Whites escaped into a draw.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.18 (very precise)
½-½

B12
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2797**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2740**
London TechM GCL rapid (6.3) 07.10.24
[Kitty Kat]

B12: Caro-Kann: Advance Variation
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.h4 h5 5.Bd3 Bxd3 6.Qxd3 Qa5+ 7.Nd2 e5-e6! would now be deadly. **7...e6 8.Ngf3** White is slightly better. **8...Nh6** 8...Nh6 scores better than 8...Qa6. 8...Sh6 punktet besser als 8...Da6. **9.0-0 Nf5 10.a4**
[10.Nb3 Qa6 11.Qc3 Nd7 12.Bg5 Rc8 13.Qd2 c5 14.c3 Qa4 15.Rfe1 b6 16.g3 g6 17.Kg2 Bg7 18.Qf4 b5 19.Re2 a6 20.Nbd2 Qc2 21.Rae1 Qxb2 22.Ne4 Qa3 23.Nd6+ Nxd6 24.exd6 0-0 Larand,M (2683)-15.♘c4 0-0 16. ♕e5 ♖ab8 (2706) 4647 Hastings 1946 (3.4) 1-0]
10...Be7
[10...Qa6 11.c4 Bb4 12.b3 c5 13.Qb1 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 cxd4 15.cxd5 exd5 16.Nf3 Nd7 17.Bb2 d3 18.Rd1

Nc5 19.Bd4 Ne6 20.Qxd3 Qxd3 21.Rxd3 0-0 22.g3 Rfd8 23.Rad1 Rd7 24.Kf1 b6 25.Be3 6.e3 ♘bd7 7. c5 ♘h5 50973 (2427)-Gawlikowski,S (2405) 56/393 Tilburg 1992 (2) 1-0]

11.g3N

[11.Nb3 Qa6 12.Qd1 Nd7 13.g3 c5 14.Bg5 c4 15.Nc1 Bxg5 16.Nxg5 f6 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Nf3 Kf7 19.Ne2 Rag8 20.Nf4 Qd6 21.Qd2 Rg4 22.Rfe1 Nf8 23.Kf1 Rhg8 24.Ra3 Rxg3 25.fxg3 Nxg3+ 16.♘a4 ♕b5 17. a3 ♘ b8 (2624)-Pigeat,A (2120) Banjaluka 27/362 1979 (6) 1-0]

11...0-0 12.Nb3 Qa6 13.Qd1 Nd7 14.Bg5 Rfe8N

[14...Rac8 15.Bxe7 Nxe7 16.c3 c5 17.dxc5 0.04/19 *(17.Re1± 0.44/19)* 17...Nxc5= 18.Nxc5 Rxc5 19.Nd4 g6 20.Qd2 Nc6 21.Nf3 Qd2-h6 is the strong threat. Qb6? 4.44/22 *(21...Ne7!= 0.00/21)* 22.Qh6+- Nf3-g5 would kill now. Qc7 23.Ng5 Re8 24.Rae1 Intending Ng5-h7 and mate. Rc8 25.Nh7 f6 26.Nxf6+ Goumas,G (2454)-Silva,M (1900) Leca da Palmeira 2nd 2023 (5) 1-0]

15.Bxe7 Rxe7 16.c3 Rc8 17.Kg2 g6 18.Re1 c5 19.dxc5 Nxc5 20.Nbd4! Nxd4 21.Nxd4 Qd3 1.02/27

[21...Qb6± 0.51/18]

22.Qc1!± Ne4 23.Rd1 Prevents Qd3-d2 **23...Qc4 24.f3 Nc5 25.Qg5 Kf8 26.Ra3** Against Nc5-b3 **26...a6 27.Rd2**

[27.Qf6 Ree8=]

27...Ke8 28.a5 Nd7 29.Qe3→ White attacks. **29...Kd8** 0.91/19

[29...Qc7± 0.53/20 deserves consideration. 30.Re2 Nb8]

30.Qg5 Ke8 31.Kg1 0.21/23

[White should play 31.Rb3!± 1.19/20]

31...Nb8 32.Rb3 Nc6 33.Qf6

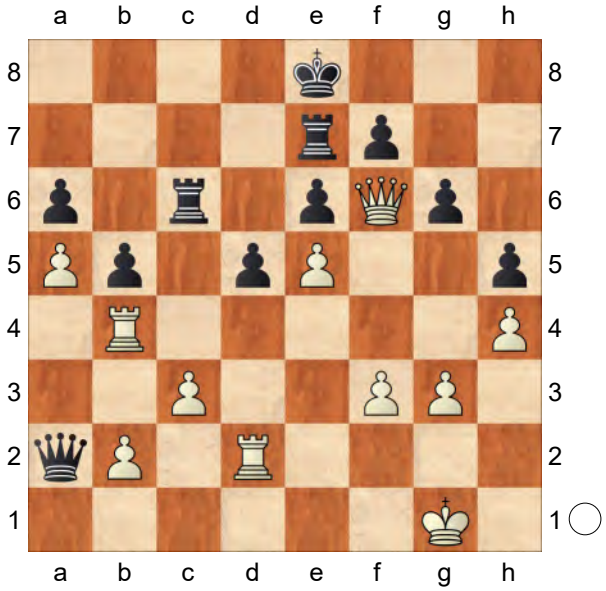
[33.Nxc6 simplifies Rxc6 34.Rb4 Qc5+ 35.Kh2]

33...b5 34.Nxc6

[34.axb6!? Nxd4 35.Rb4 Nxf3+ 36.Qxf3 Qc5+ 37.Rf2=]

34...Rxc6 Black is weak on the dark squares **35.Rb4 Qa2** 0.96/21

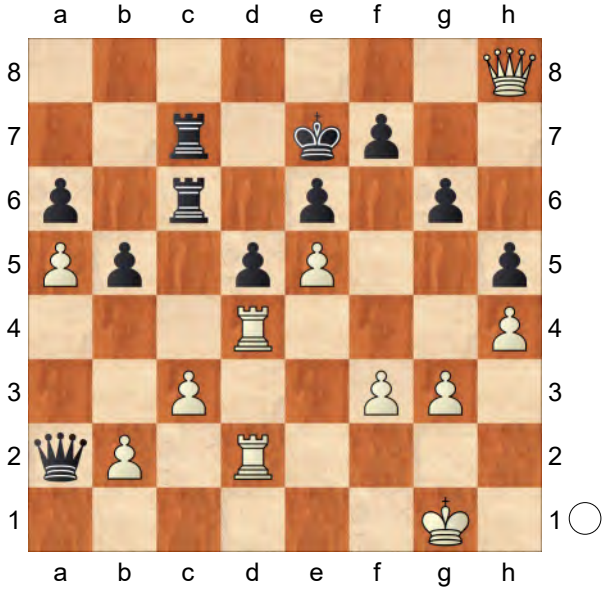
[Black should try 35...Qc5+± 0.37/23 36.Kf1 Rec7]



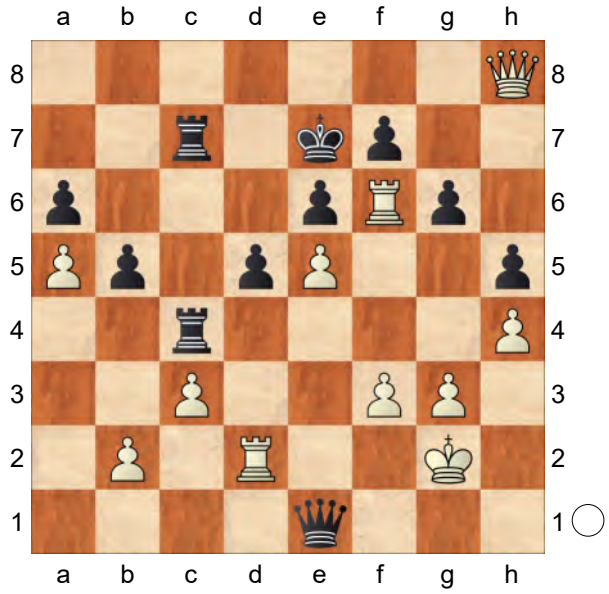
36.Rbd4! Strongly threatening Rd4xd5! White is more active. **36...Rec7?** 5.05/24

[36...Rc8± 0.95/23]

37.Qh8++- Ke7



38.Rf4 Rc4 7.93/27
[⌓38...Qb1+ 4.53/22 39.Kf2 Rc4]
39.Rf6 White threatens Qh8-g8 and mate. **39...Qb1+ 40.Kg2 Qe1**



41.Qg8! Qxe5 42.Rxf7+ Kd6 43.Qd8+
[43.Qxg6 Qe1 44.Rc2 Re4=]
43...Kc6 44.Qa8+ Kd6 45.Rxc7? 2.25/20
[45.Qxa6+? R4c6 46.Qxb5 Rxf7-+]
[45.Qb8 7.09/22 g5 46.hxg5 Qxg5 47.f4]
45...Kxc7 Endgame. KQR-KQR
46.Qa7+ Kd8 47.Qxa6 g5? 4.25/23
[47...Qe1± 1.38/22 48.Qb6+ Ke7]
48.Qb6+ Ke7 49.hxg5
[Not 49.Qxb5 gxh4 50.Qb7+ Kf6=]
49...h4 50.Qa7+
[50.Qxb5? perishes. Qxg3+ 51.Kh1 Qe1+ *(51...Qxf3+? 52.Rg2-+)* 52.Kg2 Qxd2+-+]
50...Kf8 51.Qf2 Qxg5 52.Re2 2.08/22
[⌓52.g4 3.50/22]
52...hxg3 53.Qxg3 Qxg3+ 54.Kxg3 KR-KR **54...Ke7 55.Rh2** 0.04/22
[55.Rd2± 1.08/25]
55...Ra4= The position is equal. **56.b4 d4!** Deflection **57.cxd4 Rxb4 58.Ra2** aiming for a5-a6. **58...Rxd4 59.a6 Rd8! 60.Kf4 b4 61.a7 Ra8 62.Ke5 b3 63.Rh2** White wants to mate with Rh2-h7+. **63...Kd7 64.Rb2 Rxa7 65.Rxb3 Ra5+** Black escapes into a draw.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.24 (precise)
½-½

E00
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **So,Wesley** **2752**
Julius Baer GenCup P/I m D1 rapid (2.3)
[Kitty Kat]

E00: Catalan Bogo-Indian (3 g3 Bb4+)
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Bg5N
[3.e3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 *(4.Nd2 0-0 5.a3 Bxd2+ 6.Qxd2 b6 7.Bd3 Bb7 8.f3 c5 9.Ne2 cxd4 10.Nxd4 d5 11.cxd5 Nxd5* E 00/01 Chess Informant ECO E4 2008 *)* 4...Qe7 *(4...a5 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Ne2 Bxd2+ 7.Nxd2 d6 8.0-0 e5 9.d5 Nb4 10.Bb1 0-0 11.Ng3 c6 12.a3 Na6 13.dxc6 bxc6* E 00/01 Chess Informant ECO E4 2008 *)* 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Ne2 Bxd2+ 7.Nxd2 e5 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 d5 10.cxd5 Nb4 11.Bb1 Nbxd5 12.e4 Nb6 E 00/01 Chess Informant ECO E4 2008]
[3.Nf3 c5 4.Nc3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.g3 Qb6 7.Nb3 Ne5 8.e4 Bb4 9.Qe2 d6 10.f4 Nc6 11.Be3 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Qc7 13.Bg2 0-0 14.c5 dxc5 15.Bxc5 Rd8 16.e5 Na5 17.Bb4 Nxb3 Smirnov,P (2631)-Tomashevsky, E (2641) 102/(37) Russia 2007]
[3.a3 b6 4.Nc3 Bb7 5.f3 d5 6.e3 Be7 7.Bd3 0-0 8.Nge2 c5 9.0-0 Nc6 10.dxc5 dxc4 11.Bxc4 Ne5 12.Ba2 Bxc5 13.b4 Be7 14.Nd4 Nd5 15.Nce2 Rc8 16.Qb3 Nc4

17.e4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 (1766)-Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (1914) 2002 Brantford (2) 1-0]

3...h6 4.Bh4 Bb4+ 5.Nd2 c5

[5...g5!? 6.Bg3□ d6=]

6.e3 cxd4

[6...g5!? 7.Bg3□ Bxd2+ 8.Qxd2 Ne4±]

7.exd4 d5 8.Ngf3 Nc6 9.c5 -0.81/23

[9.a3= -0.16/21 remains equal. Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2]

9...g5 0.04/19

[Better is 9...Bxd2+!∓ -0.81/23 10.Nxd2 *(10.Qxd2 g5∓)* 10...Nxd4]

10.Bg3= Ne4 11.Bb5 g4 12.Qa4 Ba5 0.66/22

[12...Bd7= 0.05/21 13.Bxc6 Bxd2+ 14.Nxd2 Bxc6]

13.b4 0.27/20

[13.Bxc6+ bxc6 14.Bh4 f6 *(14...Qc7 15.b4=)*]

[13.Bh4!± 0.66/22 is superior. f6 14.0-0-0 *(14.Bxc6+ bxc6 15.0-0-0 Ng5±)* 14...gxf3 15.Nxe4 *(15.Bxc6+ bxc6 16.Nxe4 dxe4±)* 15...dxe4 16.d5 *(16.gxf3 Bd7=)* 16...exd5 *(16...fxg2? 17.dxc6+-)* 17.Bxc6+ bxc6 18.Qxc6+ Qd7 *(18...Bd7 19.Qxd5 fxg2 20.Rhg1±)* 19.Qxa8 fxg2 20.Rhg1 *(20.Bxf6? gxh1R 21.Rxh1 Rf8-+)*]

13...Nxg3 14.hxg3 gxf3 15.bxa5 fxg2 16.Rg1 Bd7 17.a6 Qc7 18.axb7 Qxb7 19.Rxg2 a6 20.Bxc6 Bxc6 1.25/23

[20...Qxc6± 0.65/22 21.Qxc6 Bxc6]

21.Qa3± Rb8 22.Rb1 Inhibits Qb7-b2.

22...Qc7 23.Rxb8+ Qxb8 24.Qxa6 0.29/22

[24.Rh2± 0.70/20]

24...Kd7!= 25.Qa3

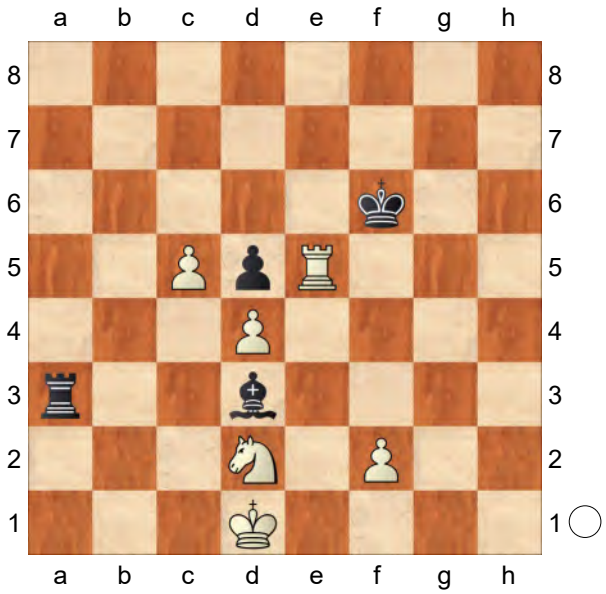
[25.f4 is more complex. Qb4 26.Qa7+ Kc8 27.Qb6]

25...Qa8 26.Qf3 Ke7 27.Qf4 Qb8 Dodges Qf4-d6+ **28.Rh2 Qxf4 29.gxf4** Endgame. KRB-KRN **29...Ra8 30.Rxh6** f4-f5 would now be deadly. **30...Rxa2** Strongly threatening ...Ra2-a1+. **31.f5 Ra1+ 32.Ke2 Ra3! 33.f6+ Kd7 34.Rh7 Bb5+ 35.Kd1** aiming for Kd1-c1! **35...e5 36.Rxf7+ Ke6 37.Re7+**

[37.Rb7!? Ba4+□ 38.Ke2 Kxf6 39.Nb1 Ra2+ 40.Ke3=]

37...Kxf6 38.Rxe5 Bd3? 2.12/29

[38...Ba4+= 0.17/20 39.Ke1 Bb5]



39.Nf3!+-

[Weaker is 39.Rxd5 Ra1+∓]

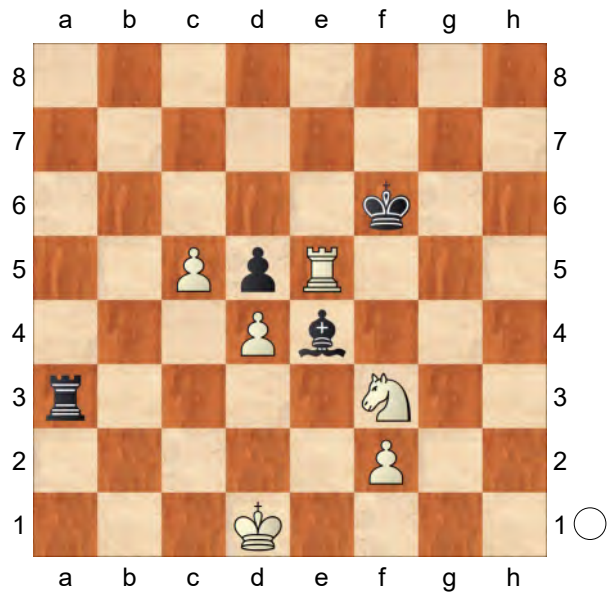
39...Be4

(Diagram)

40.Ng5 0.02/34

[White has to play 40.Nh2!+- 2.33/26]

40...Bf5= The position is equal. **41.f4 Rd3+ 42.Ke2** Re5xf5+! is the strong threat. **42...Rxd4 43.Nf3 Bg4 44.Ke3 Rc4 45.Rxd5 Rc3+ 46.Rd3 Rxd3+ 47.Kxd3 Bxf3** KB-KPP **48.Kd4 Kf5 49.Ke3 Bc6 50.Kd4 Kxf4 51.Kc4 Ke4 52.Kb4 Kd4 53.Ka3 Bd5 54.Kb2**



Kxc5

Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.16 (very precise)

½-½

C54

□ **So,Wesley** **2752**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**

Julius Baer GenCup P/I m D1 rapid (2.4)

[Kitty Kat]

C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 0-0 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Be7 8.Nbd2 d6 White has an edge. **9.Bg3** -0.19/19

[9.a4± 0.34/21 Nh5 10.Bg3 Nxg3 11.hxg3 Nb8 12.Ba2 Nd7 13.d4 c6 14.Qc2 Qc7 15.g4 c5 16.g5 hxg5 17.0-0-0 Bf6 18.Rh2 g6 19.Rdh1 cxd4 20.Rh6 Kg7 21.Nb1 Nc5 22.Nxd4 Bd7 23.Rh7+ Kg8 24.Nb5 6.♘c6 bc6 7.e5 ♘d5_52674 (2738)-2.c4 e5 3. ♘f3 d6 4.d4_19526 (2600) Masters KO Bastia FRA 2004 (9.7) 1-0]

9...Na5N

[9...g6 10.a3 Nh5 11.Nf1 Kh7 12.Ne3 f5 13.exf5 gxf5 14.d4 f4 15.Nh4 Nxg3 16.Qc2+ Kh8 17.Ng6+ Kg7 18.Nxf8 Qxf8 19.fxg3 fxe3 20.Rf1 Bf6 21.Qe4 exd4 22.Bd3 Qf7 23.0-0-0 e2 24.Qh7+ 4.♗c6 bc6 5.b3 d6_35647 (2633)-Jimenez Fraga,P (2727) Karlovac 27/195 1979 (8.9) ½-½]

10.Bb5 a6 11.Ba4 Nh5!N

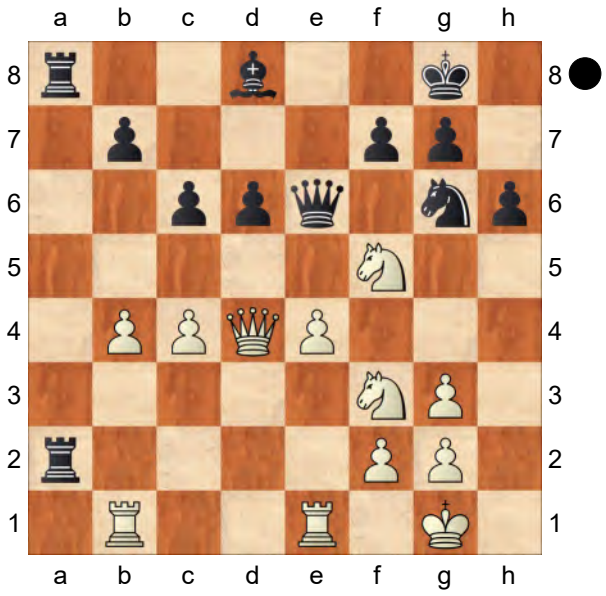
A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 11...b5 12.Bc2 c5 13.0-0 Nh5 14.Re1 g6 15.Nf1 Nxg3 16.hxg3 Bf6 17.Ne3 Bg7 Vidit,S (2720)-Lazavik,D (2578) Crunchlab PlayIn Match D2 rapid 2024 (2.2) ½-½]

12.b4 Nxg3 13.hxg3 Nc6 14.Bb3 a5 15.a3 Bg4 16.Rb1 -0.08/24

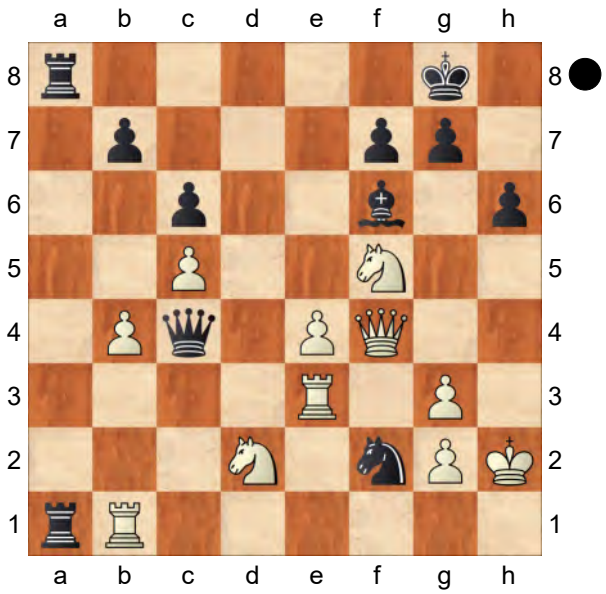
[16.b5± 0.31/21 Na7 17.a4]

16...axb4= 17.axb4 Qd7 18.Nf1 Ra3 19.Ne3 Be6 20.Bxe6 Qxe6 21.Qc1 Ra2 22.0-0 Rfa8 23.Re1 Bd8 24.Qd1 Ne7 25.d4 c6 26.c4 exd4 27.Qxd4 Ng6 28.Nf5



Ne5 29.c5 Bf6 aiming for ...Ne5xf3+. **30.Qxd6**

[30.cxd6? Nxf3+ 31.gxf3 Bxd4-+]
30...Ng4 31.Qf4 -0.79/20
[31.Qxe6= 0.17/23 keeps the balance. fxe6 32.e5]
31...Nxf2∓ 32.Re3 -2.05/26 Prevents Nf2-d3
[32.Qd6∓ -0.84/24]
32...Qc4 33.Kh2 -2.46/23 Prevents Nf2-h3.
[33.Ne1∓ -1.40/25]
33...Ra1 -1.39/25
[33...h5-+ -2.46/23 ...Nf2-g4+ would now be deadly. 34.e5 Ng4+ 35.Kh3 Qxf4 36.gxf4 Nxe3 37.Nxe3 Be7]
34.Nd2? -4.12/28
[34.Ree1∓ -1.39/25 was worth a try. Rxb1 35.Rxb1]



This costs White the game. **34...Rxb1!-+**
35.Qxf2
[35.Nxh6+ gxh6 36.Qxf2 Qxb4 37.Nxb1 Bd4 *(37...Qxc5? 38.Qf3-+)*]
35...Qc2
[35...Qxb4 36.Nxb1 Qxb1 37.Re1= *(37.Nxh6+ gxh6 38.Qxf6 Ra1∓)*]
36.Re2 -6.14/23
[⌓36.Nxh6+ -4.33/22 gxh6 37.Qxf6 Qxd2 38.Rf3]
36...Rc1 37.Nxh6+ -6.39/22
[⌓37.Nf3 -4.17/19 Qb1 38.g4]
37...gxh6 38.Qxf6 Qd1
Weighted Error Value: White=0.54/ Black=0.25 (precise)
0-1

A13
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **So,Wesley** **2752**
Julius Baer GenCup P/I m D1 rapid (2.1)
[Kitty Kat]

A13: English Opening: 1...e6
1.Nf3 d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 Be7 5.b3 0-0 6.Bb2 c5 6...c5 is better than 6...b6 .6...c5 ist besser als 6...b6.
7.cxd5 exd5 0.38/23
[7...Nxd5= 0.02/24 8.Qc2 Nc6 *(8...Nb4 9.Qe4 f5 10.Qb1 N8c6 11.a3 Nd5 12.Qc2 b6 13.Nxd5 exd5 14.d4 Be6 15.Bb5 Na5* So,W (2786)-Lenderman,A (2599) USA (ch) 136/(4) 2018 *)*]
8.Rc1N
[8.d4 Nc6 *(8...b6 9.Be2 Be6 10.0-0 Nc6 11.Rc1 Na5 12.dxc5 bxc5 13.Na4 Ne4 14.Nd2 Nxd2 15.Qxd2 c4 16.Bc3 Nb7 17.Qb2 f6 18.bxc4 Qd7 19.cxd5 Bxd5 20.Rfd1 Qxa4 21.Rxd5 Rab8 22.Rd4 Qa3 23.Rd7* Lukinov,P (2335)-6.Nge2 c5 7.Be3 Nc6 97/80 New Delhi 2006 (4) 1-0 *)* 9.Be2 Ne4 10.dxc5 Bf6 11.Rc1 *(11.Nd4 Nxc5 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.0-0 Qa5 14.Qc2 Bd7 15.a3 Nxb3 16.Qxb3 Rab8 17.Nb5 Bxb2 18.Qxb2 cxb5 19.Bf3 Be6 20.Rfd1 Rfd8 21.Qe5 Rbc8 22.g3 Qc3 23.Qd4 Qxd4 24.Rxd4 Rc4 25.Rad1 Rd7* 9.♘d2 h6 10.♗h4 69356 (2223)-Stoyko,S (2389) FIDE World Cup

2013 (8) ½-½) 11...Qa5 12.Nd4 Nxc5 13.Nxc6 bxc6 14.0-0 1.4) 1...Nf6 2. b3 e6-3...d5 4.c4 Be7 #3]

8...d4 9.Na4 dxe3 10.fxe3 -0.25/22
[10.dxe3 0.18/22 is superior. Qxd1+ 11.Rxd1]

10...b6= **11.Bb5N** Wards off Nb8-c6
[Vorgänger: 11.Be2 Nd5 12.0-0 Nc6 13.Qe1 Bb7 0.37/23 *(13...Qd6=* -0.09/20) 14.Qg3 0.00/22 *(14.Bc4!±* 0.37/23 might be stronger.) 14...Bf6= 15.Bxf6 Nxf6 16.Nc3 Dodges Nf6-e4 Nb4 17.Ne5 Qxd2? 3.36/21 *(17...Qe7=* 0.00/21 and Black stays safe.) 18.Rfd1+- Qb2 19.Nc4 Nakamura,H (2768)-So,W (2761) American Cup Champ 2023 (5.4) 1-0]

11...Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.0-0 -0.59/19
[13.a3= -0.23/22 deserves consideration.]

13...Nb4∓ 14.Ne5 -1.04/22
[14.Rb1∓ -0.54/22]

14...Nd7∓
[14...Nxa2? 15.Nc6 Qe8 16.Nxe7+ Qxe7 17.Ra1+-]

15.Nxf7 -2.16/23 **Rxf7-+ 16.Rxf7 Kxf7 17.a3 Nd3 18.Qh5+ Kf8 19.Rf1+ Bf6** -1.30/19
[19...Nf6-+ -1.67/23 White must now prevent ...Nd3xb2. 20.Bxf6 Bxf6 21.Qxh7 Ne5]

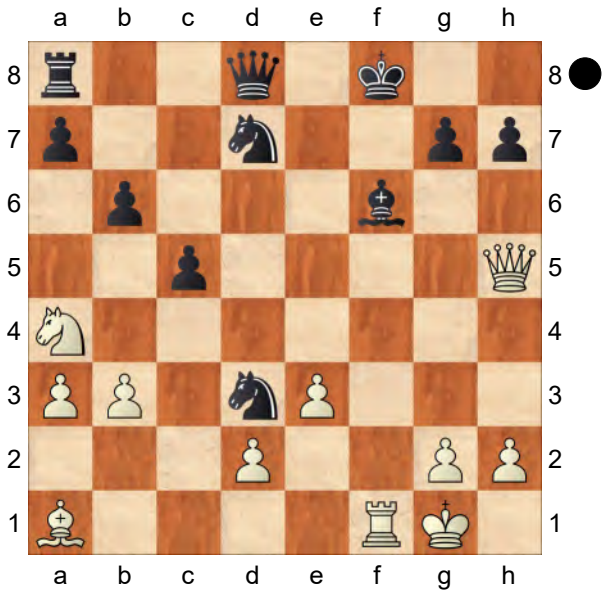
20.Ba1∓

(Diagram)

h6 -1.02/20
[Black should try 20...Qe8! -1.49/21 21.Qxh7 N7e5]

21.Nc3 -1.99/20
[21.Qf5∓ -1.02/20 b5 22.Nc3 *(22.Qxd3? bxa4 23.b4 cxb4-+)*]

21...N3e5? -0.33/19
[21...Qe8-+ -1.99/20 22.Qh3 N7e5]



22.Nd5∓ Nf7 ...Ra8-c8 is the strong threat. **23.e4! Qe8** Strongly threatening ...Bf6xa1.
[Much worse is 23...Kg8?! 24.Nxf6+ Nxf6 25.Bxf6 gxf6 26.Qg6+ Kh8 *(26...Kf8? 27.Rxf6 Qd7 28.e5+-)* 27.Qxf7 Qd4+ 28.Kh1 Qxe4 29.Qxf6+ Kh7 30.Qf2±]
[23...Rc8!? 24.e5 Nfxe5 25.Nxf6 *(25.Bxe5 Nxe5 26.Qxe5 Rc6=)* 25...Nxf6 26.Bxe5 Rc6=]

24.Qf5? -3.23/23
[24.Bxf6± 0.39/25 keeps the upper hand. Nxf6 25.Nxf6 gxf6 26.Rxf6]

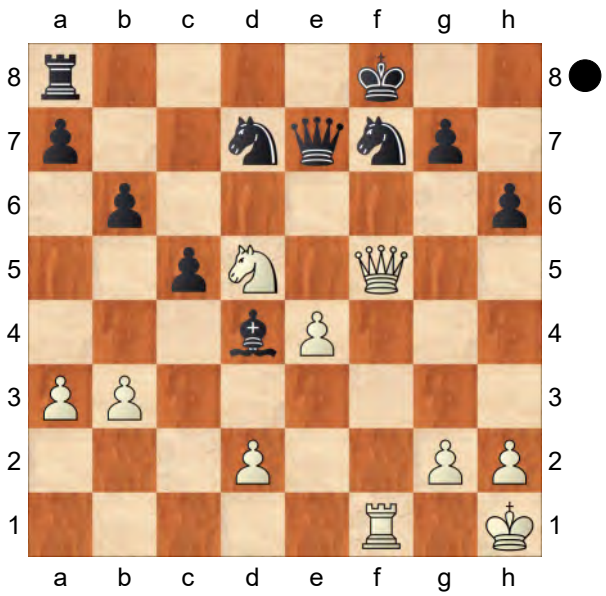
24...Bxa1-+ 25.Nc7 Qe7
[25...Bd4+ 26.Kh1 Qe7 27.Nd5∓]

26.Nd5 Qe8
[Much less strong is 26...Bd4+ 27.Kh1 g6 *(27...Qe8? 28.Nc7-+)* 28.Qxg6-+]

27.Nc7 Qe7 28.Nd5 Bd4+ 29.Kh1 Qe8 30.Nc7 Qe7 31.Nd5

(Diagram)

Qe8 -1.45/18
[31...g6!-+ -2.61/26 32.Qxg6 Nde5 33.Nxe7 Nxg6 34.Nxg6+ Kg7]



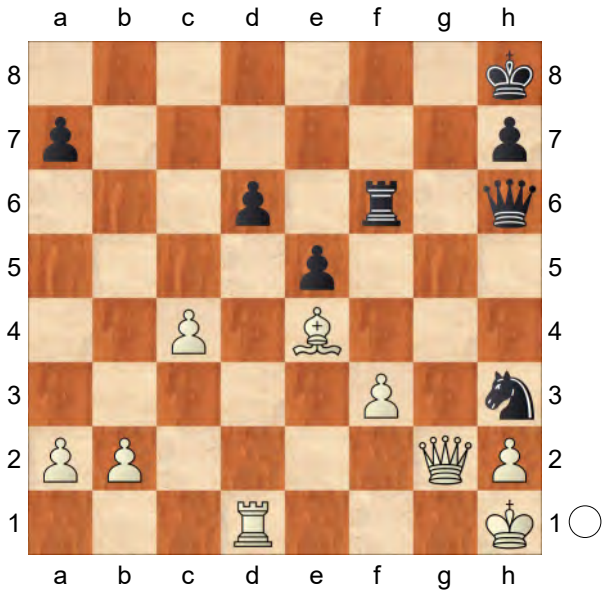
32.Nc7∓ Qe7 33.Nd5!
Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/ Black=0.34
½-½

C54

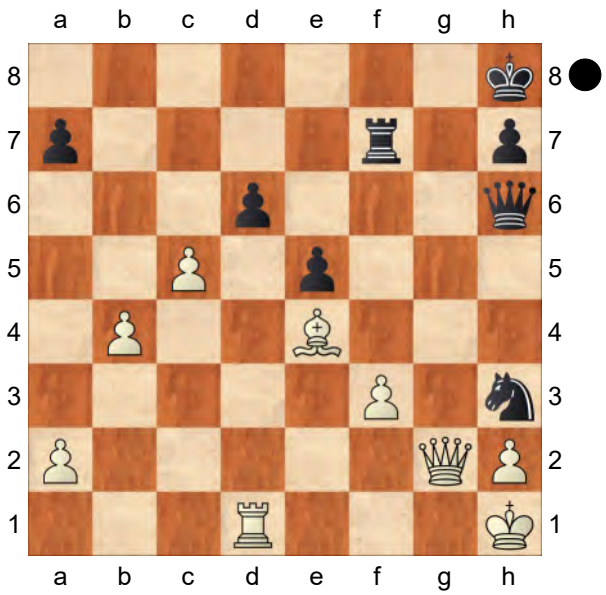
□ **So,Wesley** **2752**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
Julius Baer GenCup P/I m D1 rapid (2.2)
[Kitty Kat]

C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Re1 Bb6 8.Bg5N
[8.h3 h6 *(8...Ne7 9.Nbd2 Ng6 10.d4 c6 11.Bf1 Re8 12.Qc2 Bc7 13.b4 a5 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 dxe5 16.a4* 7) Italian 4...Bc5 5.c3 - Tre-Italian 4...Bc5 - Trendy Bb6*)* 9.Nbd2 Ne7 10.a4 a5 11.Bb3 c6 12.Nf1 Ng6 13.Ng3 d5 *(13...Re8 14.d4 Be6 15.Bc2 Qc7 16.Be3 Rad8 17.Qc1* 7) Italian 4...Bc5 5.c3 - Tre-Italian 4...Bc5 - Trendy Bb6*)* 14.exd5 Nxd5 15.d4 exd4 16.Nxd4 Re8 17.Rxe8+ Qxe8 18.Bxd5 cxd5 19.Be3 Bc7 20.Qd3 Bd7 *(20...Bxg3 21.fxg3 Bd7 22.b3 Qe5 23.Bf2 Re8 24.Re1 Qb8 25.Rxe8+ Qxe8 26.Nb5 Qe5 27.Kh2 Ne7 28.Bd4 Qe6 29.g4 f5 30.gxf5 Nxf5 31.Bf2 Qe5+ 32.Kg1 Kh8 33.Nd4 Kg8 34.Qe2 Qf4 35.Qf3* 5.♗e2 0-0-0 6.♗e3 46143 (2665)-Ellithorpe,G (2687) London FIDE GP 1st 2012 (3) ½-½ *)* 21.b3 7) Italian 4...Bc5 5.c3 - Tre-Italian 4...Bc5 - Trendy Bb6]
8...Ne7 0.43/24
[8...h6= 0.04/22 is superior. 9.Bh4 Kh8]
9.Bxf6± gxf6 White is slightly better. **10.d4 c6 11.Nbd2 Ng6 12.Bb3 Kh8 13.Nc4 Bg4 14.Ne3 Be6 15.d5 Bc8 16.Qd2 Bxe3 17.fxe3 f5 18.exf5 Bxf5 19.e4 Bg4** ...Bg4xf3 would now be deadly. **20.dxc6 Bxf3 21.cxb7**
[Of course not 21.gxf3 bxc6 22.Kh1 Qf6∓]
21...Rb8 aiming for ...Ng6-h4! **22.gxf3** With the idea Bb3-d5. **22...f5** 1.51/23
[22...Rxb7= 0.09/24 remains equal. 23.Rad1 a5]
23.Kh1 0.63/25
[23.exf5± 1.51/23 Rxf5 24.Bd5]
23...Rxb7 1.29/26
[Black should try 23...fxe4!± 0.63/25 24.Rxe4 Qf6]
24.exf5± Rxf5 25.Rad1 0.86/23
[⌓25.Rg1 1.23/23]
25...Rf6 1.31/27
[Better is 25...Qb8 0.86/23]
26.Bd5 Rg7 Black is weak on the light squares **27.Rg1 Qf8 28.c4 Nf4 29.Be4 Nh3 30.Rxg7 Qxg7 31.Qg2 Qh6**

(Diagram)



32.b4 0.00/26
[32.Qd2!± 1.04/23]
32...Rf7→ White must now prevent ... Rf7-g7. Black is up to no good. **33.c5?** -5.94/28
[33.Qd2= 0.00/26 and White is okay. Rg7 34.f4 *(34.Qxh6? Nf2#)*]



33...Rg7!-+ **34.Qf1** **Qh4** **35.Rd2** Against Nh3-f2+. And now c5-c6 would win. **35...Rg1+** **36.Qxg1** **Nxg1** **37.Rd1** **Nh3** (-> ...Nh3-f2+) **38.c6** **Nf2+** Black mates. **39.Kg2** **Nxd1** **40.c7** **Ne3+**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/ Black=0.15 (very precise)
0-1

D15
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2748**
Olympiad-45 Budapest (10.3) 21.09.2024
[Kitty Kat]

D15: Slav Defence: 4 Nc3 a6 and gambit lines after 4 Nc3 dxc4
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 5.c5 b6
[5...Bf5 6.Bf4 Nbd7 7.e3 g6 8.h3 Bg7 9.Be2 Ne4 10.0-0 0-0 11.Qb3 Qc8 12.Rac1 Re8 13.Na4 f6 14.Bh2 e5 15.Rfd1 Rb8 16.Nc3 Be6 17.Qa3 Trisic,A-Demeny,A Pereyra Puebla Memorial A 1999]
6.cxb6 aiming for Qd1-b3. **6...Nbd7N**
[6...Qxb6 7.Qc2 *(7.Na4 Qc7 8.g3 Ne4 9.Bg2 Nd7 10.0-0 e6 11.Bf4 Qa7 12.Nd2 f5 13.Nxe4 fxe4 14.Rc1 Bb7 15.Bh3 Kf7 16.f3 Nf6 17.fxe4 dxe4 18.Be5 Rd8 19.e3 h5 20.Qb3 Rd5 21.Nc3 Rh6* Chapter-Games Chapter 5-1 Game 3 *)* 7...e6 8.Bf4 Nbd7 9.e3 c5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Bd3 Bb7 12.0-0 Qa7 13.Ne5 h6 14.Qa4 Bc8 15.b4 Be7 16.Rfc1 g5 17.Bg3 Kf8 18.Nc6 Qb7 19.Ne2 Nb6 20.Qa5 Bd7 21.Nxe7 7. 4... a6 Slav: 5. c5-Slusnys, E]
7.a3!? Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
7...Qxb6 **8.Na4** White is slightly better.
8...Qc7 **9.g3!** **e6** **10.Bf4** **Bd6** **11.e3** **a5N** 0.63/24
[Vorgänger: 11...e5 12.dxe5 Nxe5

13.Bxe5 Bxe5 14.Bg2 Rb8 15.Nxe5 Qxe5 16.Rc1 h5 17.0-0 h4 Brzoza,M (2300)-Sulit,F (2254) POL-ch Clergy8 email 2021 ½-½]

[11...c5= 0.23/24 was preferrable.]

12.Rc1± 0-0 13.Qc2 Bb7 14.Bd3 h6 15.0-0 Rfe8 16.Rfd1 e5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Nd4 Nxd3 0.99/19

[18...Rab8± 0.56/20]

19.Bxd6± Qxd6 20.Rxd3 Ba6 21.Rb3 0.46/19

[21.Qxc6? Qxc6 22.Nxc6 Bxd3-+]

[21.Rdd1!± 0.87/20]

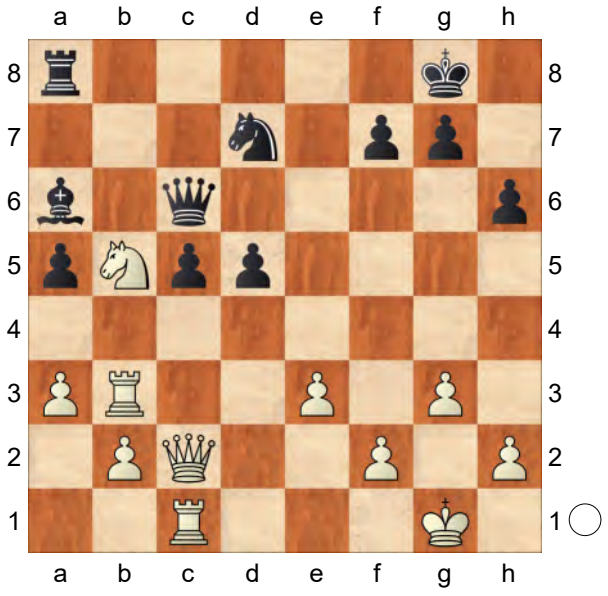
21...Nd7!± 22.Nb6! A dynamic duo of knights.

[Stronger than 22.Nxc6 Bc4 23.Nd4 Bxb3 24.Qxb3 Reb8∓]

[22.Qxc6 Rac8 23.Rc2 *(23.Qxd6 Rxc1+ 24.Kg2 Bf1+ 25.Kf3 Ne5+=)* 23...Rxc6∓]

22...c5! 23.Nxa8 Rxa8 24.Nb5 Qc6 0.78/23

[24...Qb6!± 0.39/21 25.a4 c4]



25.a4!± g6 1.94/21 Against e3-e4

[25...c4± 0.65/21]

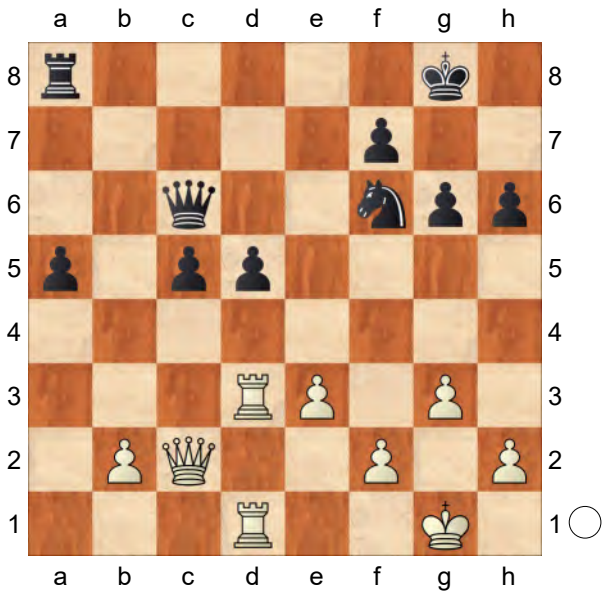
26.Rc3 1.07/19

[26.e4+- 1.94/21 Hoping for e4xd5. Bb7 27.Rd1]

26...Bxb5 2.18/25

[26...Rb8± 1.07/19]

27.axb5+- Qxb5 28.Rd1 Qc6 29.Rcd3 Nf6



30.e4! Deflection **30...Nxe4 31.Rxd5 Re8 32.Rd8** And now Rd8xe8+ would win. **32...Ng5** (-> ...Ng5-h3+) **33.Rxe8+ Qxe8** Endgame. KQR-KQN **34.Qd3** Against Ng5-f3+

[Worse is 34.Qxc5 Qe2 35.Qc8+ Kh7=]

34...Ne6 Against Qd3-d8 **35.Qe3 h5 36.Rd6** White is more active. **36...Qb5** 2.62/24

[36...h4± 1.25/23 was called for.]

37.Qe5 h4 3.91/23

[37...a4 2.71/23 keeps fighting. 38.h3 Qb7]

38.gxh4 Qc4 39.h5 Qg4+ 40.Kf1 h5xg6 would now be deadly. **40...g5** 3.86/20

[⌓40...Qc4+ 2.62/19 41.Qe2 Qf4 42.Rxe6 fxe6 43.Qxe6+ Kg7]

41.h6 Threatens to win with Rd6-d8+!

41...Kh7 42.Rd7 Qc4+ 43.Ke1 1.34/23

[43.Qe2+- 2.93/26 has better winning chances. Qc1+ 44.Qd1 Qxb2

(44...Qxd1+? 45.Rxd1 Kxh6 46.Rd7+-) 45.Rxf7+ Kxh6 46.h4 gxh4 47.Rf5 Qb5+ 48.Kg1]

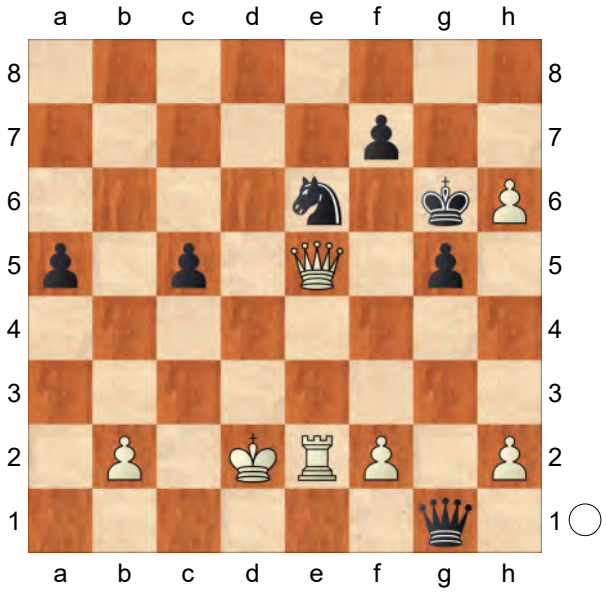
43...Qb4+± 44.Rd2 1.31/20

[White should play 44.Qc3+- 1.72/24 Qe4+ 45.Kd2 Qf4+ 46.Qe3 Qb4+ 47.Kc1 Qc4+ 48.Qc3 Qf4+ 49.Qd2]

44...Qg4? 4.56/24

[44...Kg6± 1.31/20 is tougher. 45.f3 a4 46.Qe4+ Kxh6 47.Qxb4 cxb4]

45.Re2+- Qg1+ 46.Kd2 Kg6



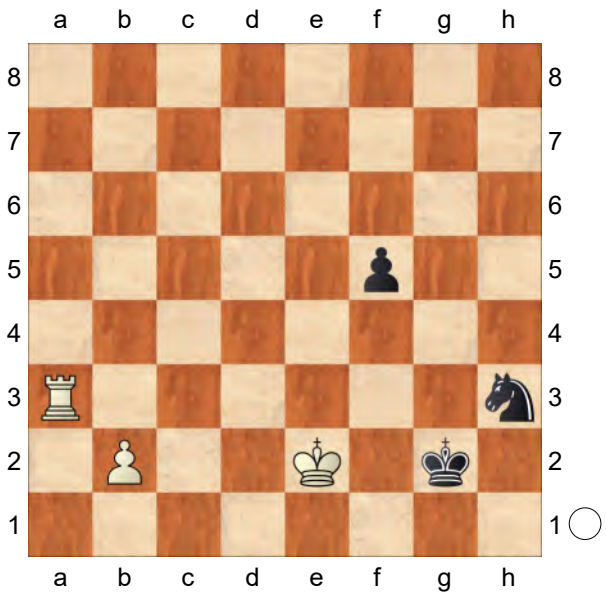
Inhibits Qe5-f5+. **47.h4!** Decoy **47...gxh4 48.Qe4+ Kxh6 49.Qxh4+ Kg6 50.Qg3+ Qxg3 51.fxg3** KR-KN **51...Kg5 52.Re3 Kg4 53.Ke2 Ng5 54.Re5 f5 55.Rxc5 a4 56.Ra5 Nh3 57.Rxa4+ Kxg3 58.Ra3+ Kg2**

(Diagram)

59.Rxh3! Deflection **59...Kxh3 60.Kf3**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.48

1-0



D30

□ **Fedoseev,Vladimir1** **2692**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**

Julius Baer GenCup D1 L rapid (1.2)

[Kitty Kat]

D30: Queen's Gambit Declined: Systems without Nc3

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4N

[3.g3 c5 4.c4 dxc4 5.Bg2 Nc6 6.Qa4 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Qxd4 8.Bxc6+ Bd7 9.Be3 Bxc6 10.Qxc6+ bxc6 11.Bxd4 Bb4+ 12.Kf1 Nf6 13.Kg2 c5 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Rc1 Rd8 16.Kf3 Ke7 17.a3 Ba5 Wiacek,K (2526)-2. Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 (2657) CSSR 13/249 1972 (1) 0-1 18.Nc3 Rb8 19.Na4 Rb3+ 20.e3 c3 21.bxc3 c4 22.Nc5 Rxc3 23.Rcb1 Rc8 24.Rb5 Bd8 25.Rd1 f5 26.Rd7+ Ke8 27.Rxa7 Be7 28.Na6 Rxa3 29.Rbb7 Bd6 30.Nc7+ Kf8 31.Rxa3 Bxa3 32.Nb5 Be7 Wiacek,K (2526)-2. ♘c3 ♘c6 3.g3 g6 4. ♗g2 (2657) CSSR 13/249 1972 (1) 0-1]

[3.e3 Nf6 4.Bd3 c5 5.c3 b6 6.Nbd2

Bb7 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Qe2 Be7 9.e4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 0-0 Beginner Guide Sarin Queen'-Sarin Queen'S Gambit Colle,S 1… e6 Against Everything 2024]

3...c6 4.Bg5 f6 5.Bd2 f5 6.Bf4 0.36/21

[6.Bg5± 0.83/21 Nf6 7.e3]

6...Nf6 0.90/20

[6...Bb4+± 0.36/21 7.Bd2 Be7]

7.e3± White is more active. **7...Ne4 8.Bd3** White is better. **8...Nd7 9.Nc3 g5 10.Bg3** 0.19/23

[10.Be5± 0.97/20 Rg8 11.h3]

10...h5= 11.cxd5 0.08/19

[11.Qc2!± 0.57/20]

11...exd5 12.Qc2 -0.40/20

[12.h4= 0.10/22]

12...h4∓ 13.Be5 Rh6 14.h3 a5 0.59/22

[Better is 14...Nxe5∓ -0.57/23 15.Nxe5 Bd6]

15.Bh2± a4 16.a3

[16.Nxa4 g4]

16...Qa5 1.47/18

[⌓16...Qe7 0.76/20]

17.0-0± Be7 18.Ne5 Ndf6 19.f3 Nd6 20.e4 1.20/17

[20.Rae1+- 1.61/20]

20...dxe4 21.fxe4 f4 22.Nf3 Nh5 1.63/20

[22...Nf7± 1.16/21]

23.e5+- Nf7 24.Bg6 0.89/19

[24.Bc4+- 1.64/19]

24...Be6± 25.Rad1 Kf8 26.Qe4 0.26/19

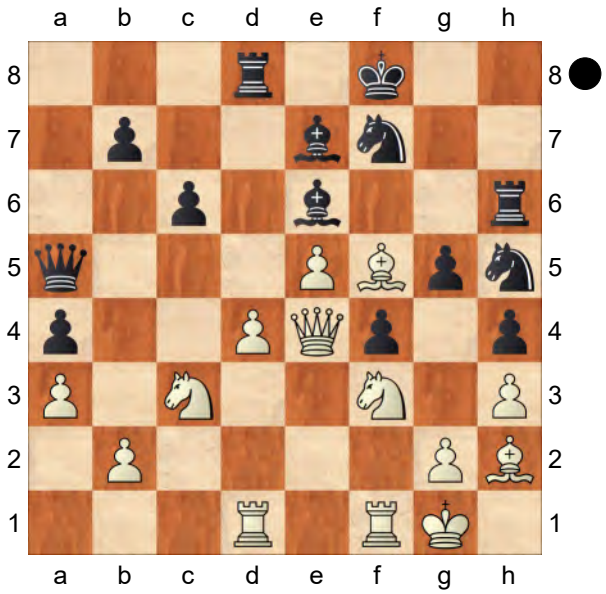
[26.Bxh5± 1.12/22 Rxh5 27.Ne2]

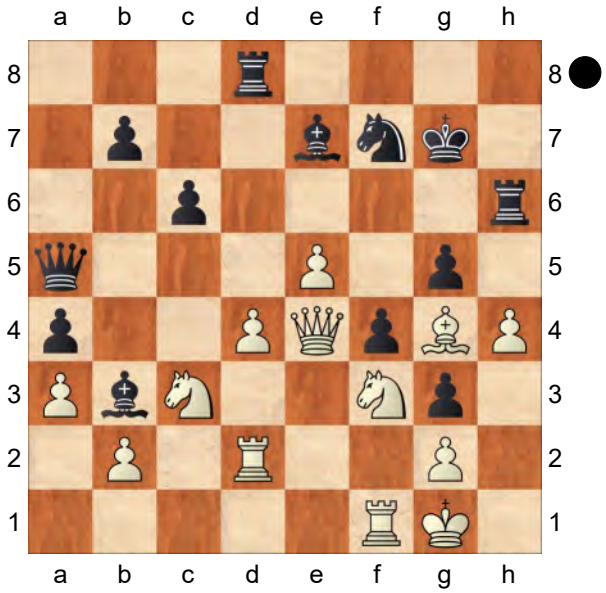
26...Rd8!= 27.Bf5

(Diagram)

Threatens to win with Bf5xe6. **27...Bb3 28.Rd2 Kg7 29.Bg4 Ng3 30.Bxg3 hxg3 31.h4?** -1.97/18

(Diagram)





Rdh8!-+ 32.e6 Nd8 -0.78/21

[32...Nd6-+ -2.04/21 is more deadly. 33.Qe5+ Qxe5 34.dxe5 Nc4 *(34...Bxe6 35.exd6 Bd8 36.Bxe6±)*]

33.d5? -2.29/22

[33.Re1∓ -0.78/21 was called for.]

33...cxd5 -1.28/19

[33...Qc5+-+ -2.29/22 34.Qd4+ Qxd4+ 35.Nxd4 Rxh4 36.Nf5+ Kf8 37.Nxh4 Bc5+ *(37...Rxh4? 38.d6+-)* 38.Kh1 Rxh4+ *(38...gxh4? 39.dxc6 Nxc6 40.Rxf4+ Ke8 41.Rd7+-)* 39.Bh3 cxd5 40.e7+ Kxe7 41.Rxd5

Bxd5 42.Nxd5+ Kf7]
34.Nxd5∓ Bc5+ 0.00/17
[Black should play 34...Qc5+∓ -1.23/21 35.Kh1 Nc6]
35.Kh1!= Strongly threatening Qe4-e5+. Really sharp!
[35.Rd4 Nc6 *(35...Bxd4+? 36.Qxd4+ Kf8 37.e7+ Ke8 38.Nxf4+-* Promotion *)* 36.Qf5 Rf8 *(36...Bxd4+? 37.Nxd4 Rf8 38.Qxg5+ Rg6 39.e7+-)* 37.Qxg5+ Rg6-+]
35...Nxe6? 7.02/21 **36.Qe5++-**
[36.Bxe6 Rxh4+ 37.Nxh4 *(37.Bh3 Rxh3+ 38.gxh3 Rxh3+ 39.Nh2 Qxd2=* Pin, Double Attack*)* 37...Rxh4+ *(37...Qxd2 38.Qg6+ Kf8 39.Qf7#)* 38.Bh3 Rxh3+ *(38...Qxd2 39.Qe5+ Kh7 40.Qf5+ Kh6 41.Qf6+ Kh7 42.Nxf4=)* 39.gxh3 Qxd2 40.Qe5+ Kh7 41.Qf5+ Kh6 42.Qe6+ Kg7 43.Qd7+ Kh6 44.Qe6+ Kh5 *(44...Kg7 45.Qd7+ Kf8 46.Rxf4+ gxf4 47.Qc8+ Kg7 48.Qg4+ Kh6 49.Qe6+ Kg5 50.Qe5+ Kg6 51.Qf6+ Kh5 52.Qh8+ Kg6 53.Qf6+ Kh7 54.Qf7+ Kh8 55.Qe8+ Kg7 56.Qe5+ Kg8 57.Qg5+ Kh8 58.Qd8+ Kg7 59.Qg5+ Kf7 60.Qf5+ Kg8 61.Qe6+ Kh8 62.Qf6+ Kg8 63.Qe6+ Kg7 64.Qf6+ Kh7 65.Qf5+ Kg8 66.Qe6+=)* 45.Nf6+ Kg6 46.Nd5+ Kh5 47.Nf6+ Kg6 48.Nd5+ Kh7 49.Qf7+ Kh6 50.Qf6+ Kh7 *(50...Kh5 51.Qh8+ Kg6 52.Qf6+ Kh5 53.Qf7+ Kh6 54.Qe6+=)* 51.Qf5+ Kh6 52.Qe6+=]
36...Kf8 37.Qb8+?? -1.77/18
[37.Bxe6 Rxh4+ 38.Nxh4 *(38.Bh3 Rxh3+ 39.gxh3 Rxh3+ 40.Nh2 Qxd2=* Pin, Double Attack*)* 38...Rxh4+ 39.Bh3 Rxh3+ *(39...Qxd2? 40.Qf6+ Kg8 41.Qxg5+ Kf8 42.Qxh4+-)* 40.gxh3 Qxd2 41.Qf5+ Ke8 42.Qc8+ Kf7 43.Qd7+ Kf8 44.Qf5+ Ke8 45.Qc8+ Kf7 46.Qd7+ Kf8 47.Qc8+ *(47.Qf5+ Ke8=)* 47...Kf7= *(47...Kg7 48.Qxb7+ Kh8 49.Qc8+ Kh7 50.Qd7+ Kh6 51.Qe6+ Kh5 52.Qf7+ Kh6 53.Qf6+ Kh7 54.Qf5+ Kh8 55.Qc8+ Kg7 56.Qd7+ Kf8 57.Qd8+ Kf7 58.Qf6+ Ke8 59.Qc6+ Kd8 60.Qc7+ Ke8 61.Nf6+ Kf8 62.Nh7+ Kg8 63.Nf6+ Kf8 64.Nd7+ Ke8 65.Nf6+ Kf8=)*]
[37.Nxg5+- 7.70/19 Rxh4+ 38.Nh3]
37...Qd8-+ 38.Qxd8+? -3.16/18
[38.Qe5∓ -1.44/22 Bd4 39.Nxf4 *(39.Nxd4?* too greedy. *Rxh4+ 40.Bh3 Rxh3+ 41.gxh3 Qxd5+ 42.Nf3 Rxh3+ 43.Kg1 Qxe5-+)* 39...Bxe5 *(39...gxf4 40.Nxd4 Rxh4+ 41.Bh3=)* 40.Nxe6+ Bxe6 41.Rxd8+ Ke7 42.Rxh8 Bxh8 43.Re1 *(43.Bxe6? Kxe6 44.Nxg5+ Kd5-+)*]
38...Nxd8 39.Nxg5 Rxh4+ 40.Bh3 Bf2 This pair of bishops is nice. **41.Nf3** -2.23/22
[⌓41.Ne4 -1.80/20]
41...Rxh3+? -0.05/27
[41...Ne6-+ -2.23/22 ...Rh4-h6 would now be deadly. 42.Nc3 Rg4 43.Rdxf2 gxf2 44.Rxf2 Kg7]
42.gxh3= The position is equal. **42...Ne6**
[42...Rxh3+ 43.Kg2 Rh6 *(43...Bc4? 44.Rc1+-)* 44.Nxf4]
43.Kg2 Rh5 44.Nf6 Rb5 45.Rfxf2 gxf2 46.Kxf2 Ke7 47.Ne4 Rh5 48.h4 Bd5 49.Neg5 Nxg5 50.hxg5 Endgame. KRB-KRN **50...Bc6 51.Rd4 b5 52.Rxf4**
[52.g6 seems wilder. Bxf3 53.Kxf3 Kf6 54.Kg4]
52...Bxf3 53.Rxf3 Rxg5 KR-KR **54.b3 b4 55.bxa4 bxa3 56.Rxa3 Kd6 57.a5 Kc7 58.a6** White threatens a6-a7 and mate. **58...Kb8 59.a7+ Ka8 60.Ke2**

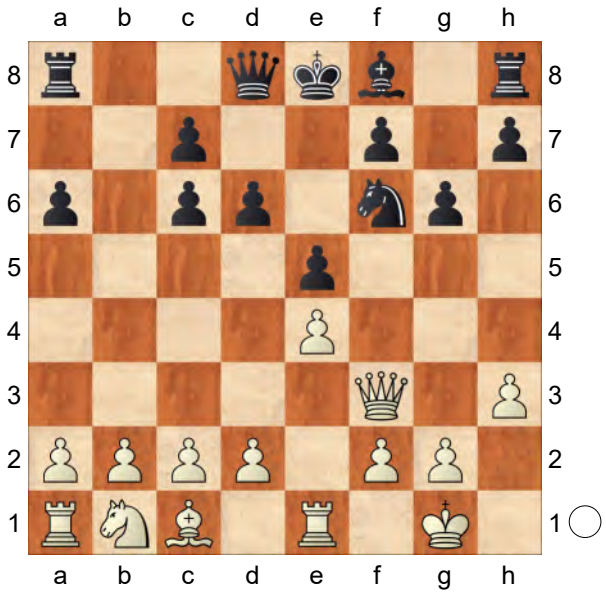
Rg7 61.Kd2 Rxa7 62.Rxa7+ Kxa7
White used his chance.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/ Black=0.29 (precise)
½-½

C79
□ **Grischuk,Alexander 2689**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2778**
Julius Baer GenCup D1 W rapid (1.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C79: Ruy Lopez: Steinitz-type lines with 3...a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 d6
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 d6 6.Bxc6+ bxc6 7.Re1 Bg4 7...Nd7 is the recent fashion. 7...Sd7 ist aktuell in Mode. **8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3** White is slightly better. **9...g6N** 1.28/23
[Vorgänger: 9...Nd7 10.c3 *(10.Na3 g6 11.d4 Bg7 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Qg3 0-0 14.c3 Re8 15.Bg5 Qb8 16.Re2 a5 17.Rae1 a4 18.Kh1 Ra5 19.Bc1 Nd7 20.Nc2 Qb7 21.f4 c5 22.Qd3 Re7 23.e5 dxe5 24.fxe5 Qa6* Ismagambetov,A (2520)-Bologan,V (2598) FIDE World Rapid Team 2024 (9.26) 0-1*)* 10...c5 *(10...g6 11.d4 Bg7 12.Be3 Qb8 13.b3 0-0* 9) Ruy Lopez 6.Bxc6+-6.Bxc6+ bxc6 7.Re1 #6 *)* 11.Qd1 g6 12.d4 Bg7 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Nd2 0-0 15.Nf3 Nxf3+ 16.Qxf3 Duda,J (2732)-Dragun,K (2553) Speed Chess Poland blitz 2024 (2.3) ½-½]
[9...Nd7± 0.34/22]

(Diagram)

10.d4!± Bg7



[10...Nd7 11.dxe5]
11.dxe5 dxe5 12.Na3 0-0 13.Bg5 Qe7 14.Rad1 1.31/21
[14.Nc4+- 1.71/20]
14...Qe6 1.71/22
[14...a5± 1.31/21 15.Qc3 Qb4]
15.Qb3+- Qe7 16.Nc4 Rab8 2.20/23
[16...Rfe8 1.77/20 keeps fighting. 17.Qe3 Qe6]
17.Qc3 Qe6 18.b3
[18.Nxe5 Nh5 19.f4 h6 20.Bxh6 *(20.Bh4? Nxf4 21.Qf3 Bxe5-+)* 20...Bxh6-+]
18...Nd7 19.Na5 c5 20.Re2 Rb4 21.Nc4 Nb6 22.a3 Rb5 23.Red2 Nxc4 24.bxc4
[24.Qxc4 Qxc4 25.bxc4 Rbb8±]
24...Rbb8 25.Rd5 f5 26.Be3 fxe4 2.51/24
[⌓26...Bf6 1.63/21 27.exf5 *(27.Bxc5 Rf7±; 27.Rxc5 f4±)* 27...gxf5]
27.Bxc5
[27.Rxc5 Rf7 28.Rcd5 Bf6+-]
27...Rf4 4.68/21
[27...Rfe8 2.46/20 28.Rd7 Rbc8]
28.Rd8+ Rxd8 29.Rxd8+ Kf7 7.53/19
[⌓29...Bf8 4.42/21 30.Qb4 e3 31.Bxf8 *(31.Rxf8+ Rxf8 32.Bxf8*

a5+-; 31.fxe3 Rf1+ 32.Kh2 e4+-) 31...exf2+ 32.Kf1 Qxc4+ 33.Qxc4+ Rxc4 34.Bd6+ Discovered Attack (Check) *(34.Kxf2 Rf4+ 35.Ke3 Rxf8+-)* 34...Kf7 35.Rd7+ Skewer *(35.Bxe5 Ke6+-)* 35...Ke6]

30.Qa5 Qc6 31.Rc8 Qf6 32.Qxc7+ Ke6 33.Re8+ 12.47/19

[⌓33.g4 #7/18 Qf8 34.Rxf8 *(34.Bxf8 Bxf8 35.Re8+ Kf6 36.Rxf8+ Kg5 37.Qxe5+ Kh4 38.Qxf4 h5 39.gxh5+ Kxh5 40.Rh8#)* 34...Bxf8 35.Qc8+ Kf6 36.Qxf8+ Kg5 37.Be7+ Rf6 38.Bxf6+ Kf4 39.Bh4#]

33...Kf5 34.Qd7+ Kg5 35.Be7 Pin. Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.59

1-0

D35

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**

■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2689**

Julius Baer GenCup D1 W rapid (1.2)

[Kitty Kat]

D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation

ChessCalisthenics: 'E56: Nimzo-Indian: Rubinstein: Main Line: 7...Nc6' **1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Be7 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.cxd5N**

[5.e3 0-0 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 c5 8.0-0 a6 9.Qe2 b5 10.Bb3 cxd4 11.exd4 Bb7 12.Bg5 Nc6 13.Rad1 Nb4 14.Ne5 Nbd5 15.Rd3 Nxc3 16.bxc3 Ne4 17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.Re3 Nf6 19.Bc2 Qd6 Alatortsev,V-Petrosian,T URS-ch18 Moscow 1950 ½-½ 20.Rg3 g6 21.h4 Rac8 22.h5 Rc7 23.Re1 b4 24.hxg6 fxg6 25.cxb4 Rfc8 26.Bxg6 hxg6 27.Rxg6+ Rg7 28.Rxf6 Rxg2+ 29.Kf1 Qxd4 30.Rg6+ Rxg6 31.Nxg6 Re8 32.Qh5 Kg7 33.Ne5 Rf8 34.Qg6+ Kh8 Knudsen,P-7.d5 ♘a6 8.♗g5 59147 Australia 1984 1-0 35.Qh6+ Kg8 36.Qxe6+ Kh8 37.Qh6+ Kg8 38.Qe6+ Kh8 39.Qh6+ Kg8 40.Qg6+ Kh8 41.Qh5+ Alatortsev,V-Kan,I Moscow-ch17 1937 1-0]

[5.g3 0-0 6.Bg2 c6 7.0-0 a5 8.b3 b6 9.Bb2 Ba6 10.Nd2 b5 11.Qc2 Nbd7 12.Rfd1 Rc8 13.e4 dxc4 14.bxc4 bxc4 15.Na4 c3 16.Bxc3 Bb5 17.Nc5 Nxc5 18.dxc5 Be2 19.Re1 Bd3 Navara,D (2689)-Yu,Y (2735) Biel Blitz 56th 2023 (1) 1-0]

[5.Bg5 h6 6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.e3 0-0 8.Rc1 c6 9.h4 Re8 10.g4 e5 11.g5 exd4 12.Nxd4 hxg5 13.hxg5 Bxd4 14.Qxd4 Qxg5 15.cxd5 Bf5 16.Be2 cxd5 17.Rh5 Qg1+ 18.Kd2 Qxf2 19.Rch1 f6 Model Games-Ivanisevic,I Lifetime Repertoires: Plichta's Queen's 2023 1-0]

5...exd5 6.Bf4 c6 7.h3 Bf5 8.e3 Qb6 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Nbd7 The position is equal. **11.0-0-0** -0.27/21

[⌓11.0-0 0.15/20]

11...0-0= 12.Nh4 g6! Against Nh4-f5 **13.Nf3 Rfe8 14.h4 h5 15.Ng5 Bb4** -0.06/21

[15...a5∓ -0.53/21 should be considered.]

16.f3 Qa5 17.Kb1 Bxc3

[17...c5 feels hotter. 18.Ne2 Qb6 19.dxc5 Nxc5 20.Qd4 Ncd7]

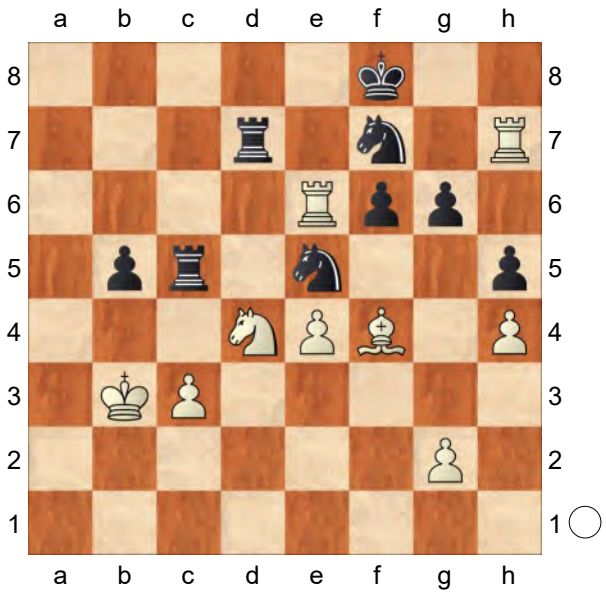
18.Qxc3 Qxc3 19.bxc3 Nb6 20.Rhe1 Nc4 21.e4 dxe4 22.fxe4 Rad8 23.Kc2 Ng4 0.21/21

[23...Rd7 -0.16/20 is more appropriate.]

24.Re2 f6 25.Nf3 Rd7 26.a4 a5

0.68/22
[26...b5= 0.14/21]
27.Kb3 0.01/22
[27.Kd3± 0.68/22 Nb6 28.Ra1]
27...b5 28.d5 Nb6 A dynamic duo of knights. **29.axb5 cxb5** ...Nb6xd5! would now be deadly. **30.d6 Rc8** 0.74/23
[30...Rb7= -0.01/20 remains equal.]
31.Nd4 -0.06/21
[31.e5± 0.74/23 Strongly threatening e5-e6. fxe5 32.Nxe5 Nxe5 33.Rxe5]
31...Rc5 32.Ra2
[32.Ne6 Rc4 33.Rd4 a4+ 34.Kc2 Ne5]
32...Ne5 1.01/25
[32...g5= -0.23/24 33.hxg5 fxg5]
33.Rxa5 White is more active. **33...Rxd6 34.Rda1!**
[34.Rxb5? Rxb5+ 35.Kc2 Ra5 36.Bxe5 fxe5-+]
34...Nbc4? 4.38/24
[34...Rd7± 0.98/23 is tougher.]

Loses the game. **35.Ra8+!+-**
[35.Rxb5 Nd2+ 36.Kc2 *(36.Bxd2 Rxb5+ 37.Nxb5 Rxd2∓)* 36...Nxe4 37.Bxe5 Rxe5= *(37...Rxc3+? 38.Kb2+-)*]
35...Kf7 36.Rh8 Rd7 10.31/23
Prevents Ra1-a7
[36...Nb6 3.51/23 37.Ra6 Ke7 *(37...Rxc3+? 38.Kxc3 Nd5+ 39.exd5+-)* 38.Rh7+ Ke8 39.Rh8+ Kf7 40.Rh7+ Kg8]
37.Raa8 Ke7 38.Rh7+ Nf7 39.Ra6 4.01/22
[⌓39.Bh6 8.20/24 Rd8 40.Rxd8 Kxd8 41.Rxf7 *(41.Ne6+ Ke8+-)*]
39...Nce5 7.30/24
[⌓39...Rc8 4.01/22 40.Rg7 *(40.Nxb5 Kf8±)* 40...Kf8 41.Rxg6 Ncd6 42.Bxd6+ *(42.Rxf6 Nxe4 43.Rfc6 Rxc6+-)* 42...Rxd6]
40.Re6+? 2.68/24
[40.Bxe5 7.30/24 fxe5 41.Nc6+ Rxc6 42.Rxc6]
40...Kf8



And now ...Kf8-g8 would win. **41.Rxf6 Kg8** Prevents Nd4-e6 **42.Ne6!**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.51/ Black=0.41
1-0

C42
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Bu,Xiangzhi** **2693**
Olympiad-45 Budapest (7.3) 18.09.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C42: Petroff Defence: 3 Nxe5 and unusual White 3rd moves

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Be7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nd7 9.0-0-0 Nf6 10.Bd3 White has an edge. **10...Re8!** is more profitable than 10...c5 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 10...c5.

[10...c5 11.Rhe1 Be6 12.a3 c4 13.Bf1 Ne4 14.Qe2 d5 15.Bd4 b5 16.Nd2 Nd6 Caruana,F (2823)-Duda,J (2743) chess.com (Int.-m/25-blitz) 147/(94) 2020]

11.h3N

[11.Rhe1 Bg4 12.Bg5 Qd7 13.Kb1 Bf5 14.Nd4 Bxd3 15.cxd3 c5 16.Nc2 h6 17.Bh4 Nd5 18.Bxe7 Rxe7 19.c4 Rxe1 20.Rxe1 Nf6 21.d4 Re8 22.Rxe8+ Qxe8 23.f3 b6 24.Ne3 Qe6 25.Kc2 g6 Vokhidov,S (2643)-Yu,Y (2703) FIDE World Rapid Team 2024 (10.15) ½-½]

[11.Rhg1 c5 12.c4 a6 13.g4 Bxg4 14.Rg3 Bxf3 15.Rxf3 g6 16.Bh6 Ng4 17.Rg1 Nxh6 18.Qxh6 Bf8 19.Qf4 Qd7 20.h4 Re5 21.a3 Rae8 22.Kb1 Bg7 23.Ka2 b5 24.Rd1 b4 25.Bf1 Rb8 Nikolin,Z (2394)-3.♗b5 ♕b6 (2409) Christmas Congress 1946/47-22 Premier (2.2) ½-½]

[11.h4 d5 12.Bg5 h6 13.Rde1 c5 14.Bxh6 Ne4 15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.Qxd8 Bxd8 17.Bf4 b6 18.Nd2 Bb7 19.Nc4 Re6 20.Rd1 b5 21.Ne3 c4 22.h5 Bc6 23.g4 Bb6 24.g5 Rd8 25.Rdg1 Kh7 5.♘g5 e6 6.♗d3 ♘gf6_442 (2651)-Bolanos Lopez,J (2526) FRA-chT Top 16 GP Haute 2005 (3.6) ½-½]

11...Bd7 12.Rhe1 c5 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.Be4 Qa5N

[Vorgänger: 15...Bc6 16.Bxc6 Rxe1! 17.Nxe1 bxc6 18.Qxd6 Qb6! 19.Nd3 Rd8 20.Qg3! Black must now prevent Qg3-g4. c4 21.Ne5 Rxd1+ 22.Kxd1 Bxe5 23.Qxe5 Qe5-e8+ is the strong threat. Qxf2 aiming for ...Qf2-g1+. 24.Qe4 Qf1+ 25.Kd2 Qf2+ Antoniewski,R (2521)-Cyborowski,L (2526) CZE-chT 1819 2018 (3.6) ½-½]

16.a3

[16.Qxd6 Rad8 17.a3 *(17.Bxb7? Rxe1 18.Rxe1 Bc8-+)* 17...Be6∓]

[16.Bxb7 Qxa2 17.Qd3 c4 18.Qxd6 Qa1+ 19.Kd2 Qxb2∓]

16...Rab8 17.Qf4 0.00/27

[17.Qxd6± 0.37/20 is more appropriate. Be6 18.Rd3]

17...b5= The position is equal. **18.Rxd6 b4! 19.Rxf6**

[19.Rxd7 bxa3 20.b4 *(20.bxa3? Qxc3 21.Kd1 Rb1+ 22.Ke2 Qc4+ 23.Kd2 Bc3+* Skewer, Deflection *24.Ke3 Bxe1-+)* 20...Qa4-+]

19...bxc3

[19...gxf6 20.Qxh6 Rxe4 *(20...bxa3 21.Bh7+ Kh8 22.Bg6+* Discovered Attack (Check) *Kg8 23.Qh7+ Kf8 24.Qxf7#)* 21.Rxe4 bxa3 22.b4 *(22.Qxf6? axb2+ 23.Kd2 Qd8-+; 22.bxa3 Qxc3 23.Rh4 Qxa3+ 24.Kd2 Qa5+ 25.Kd1 Qa1+ 26.Kd2 Qa5+ 27.Kd1 Qa1+ 28.Kd2 Qa5+=)*]

20.bxc3 Qxc3

[Much weaker is 20...Qxa3+?! 21.Kd2 gxf6 22.Qxf6+-]

21.Rd6 Qxa3+ 22.Kd2 Qa5+! 23.Kc1

[23.c3!? Rb2+□ 24.Bc2 Rxc2+ 25.Kxc2 Qa2+ 26.Kc1 Qa1+ 27.Kd2

Qb2+ 28.Kd1 Qb3+ 29.Kd2 Qa2+ 30.Kc1 Qa3+ 31.Kd2 Qa2+ 32.Kd3 c4+ 33.Qxc4 *(33.Kd4? Qxf2+ 34.Kxc4 Rxe1-+* Pin *)* 33...Bf5+ 34.Kd4 Qxf2+ 35.Kd5 Rxe1 36.Nxe1 Qxe1 37.Rd8+ Kh7 38.Kd6=]

23...Qa1+ 24.Kd2 Qa5+ 25.Kc1 Qa1+ 26.Kd2 Qa5+ Not much happened in this game.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)

½-½

E73

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2832**

FIDE World Bl Team Final blitz (4.1)
[Kitty Kat]

E73: King's Indian: Averbakh Variation without 6...c5

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 e5 6.dxe5 dxe5 7.Qxd8+ Kxd8 8.f4

[8.Bg5 Be6 9.Nd5 Nbd7 10.0-0-0 Kc8 11.f3 c6 12.Nc3 h6 13.Be3 Bf8 14.Na4 Kc7 15.a3 Nb6 16.Nxb6 axb6 17.Nh3 Bxh3 18.gxh3 Bc5 19.Bd2 Nh5 20.Bc3 Rhe8 21.Rhe1 Bf2 22.Rf1 Be3+ Esen,B (2414)-9.♘d2 a5/ 14.♕c2 ♘gf6 1 (2666) 94/132 San Luis 2005 (7) 0-1]

8...Be6 9.Nf3!

[9.fxe5 Nfd7=]

9...Nc6 10.0-0

[10.fxe5 Nd7=]

[10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.fxe5 Nd7=]

10...Kc8N 0.70/21

[⌓10...Nd4 0.34/22]

[10...exf4 11.Bxf4 Nd7 12.Rad1 Kc8 13.Nd5 Nce5 14.Nd4 *(14.Ng5 c6 15.Nxe6 fxe6 16.Ne3 Nc5 17.Ng4 Ned7 18.e5 Rf8 19.Be3 Kc7 20.Nf6 a5 21.Nxh7 Rxf1+ 22.Rxf1 Bxe5 23.b3 Rh8 24.Rf7 Kd8 25.g3 Ne4 26.Ng5 Nxg5 27.Bxg5+ Kc7 28.Kg2 Rf8* 10.dc5 ♗c5 11.♗d2-Hübner Variation with 4...c5 USSR (ch) 14/229 1972 1-0*)* 14...c6 15.Ne7+ Kc7 16.Nef5 Bxf5 17.exf5 Rae8 18.Bg3 E 73/01-N,N Chess Informant ECO E4 2008]

11.f5±

[11.fxe5 Ng4=]

[11.Nxe5?! Nxe5 12.fxe5 Nd7=]

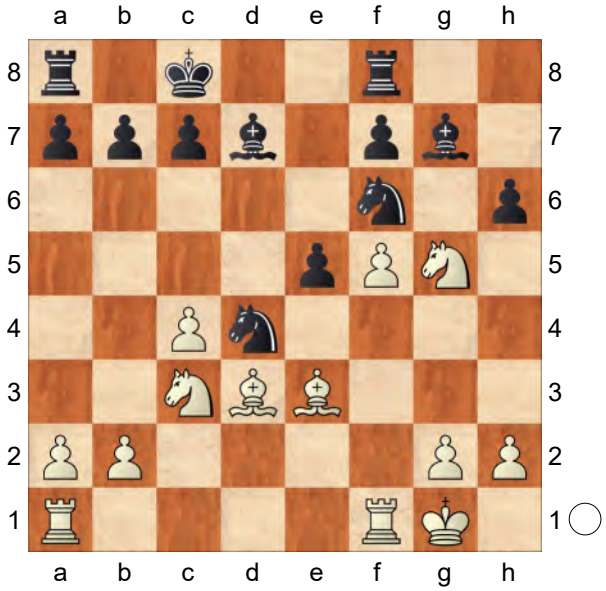
11...gxf5 12.exf5 Bd7 13.Ng5 Rf8 1.14/20

[13...Be8± 0.65/20]

14.Be3 0.57/21

[14.Nd5± 1.14/20 Hoping for Nd5xf6. Nd4 15.Bd3]

14...Nd4 15.Bd3 h6



White now steadily converts the win.

16.Nge4 Nxf5 1.42/21

[⌓16...Nxe4 0.85/22 17.Bxe4 Rd8]

17.Bc5± White is much more active.

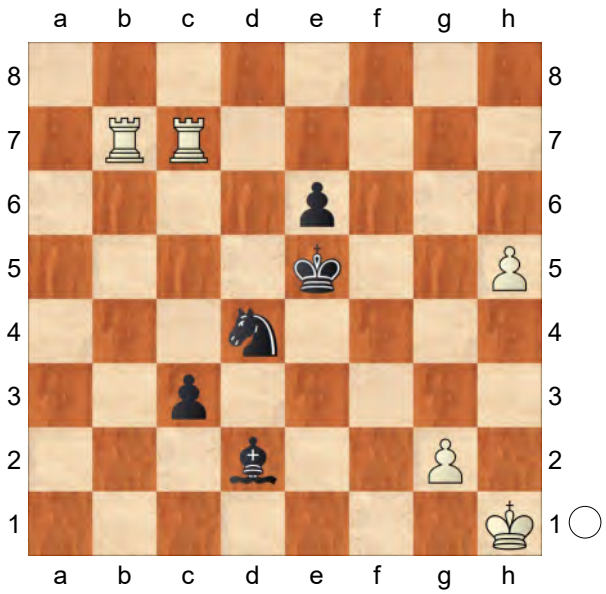
17...Nxe4 18.Bxf8

[18.Bxe4?! Nd6=]

[18.Nxe4?! Re8±]

18...Bxf8 19.Nxe4 Be6 20.Rae1

Against Nf5-e3 **20...Nd4 21.Nf6 Bd6 22.Kh1 c5** 2.08/24
[22...b6± 1.30/20 23.Ng8 f5 24.Nxh6 f4 *(24...e4? 25.Nxf5* Remove Defender *Bxf5 26.Bxe4+-)*]
23.b3 Kc7 24.Be4 a5 2.63/23
[⌓24...Be7 1.89/21 25.g4 *(25.Nd5+ Bxd5* Remove Defender *26.Bxd5* Discovered Attack *f6+-)* 25...Rf8]
25.Bd5+- a4 26.Bxe6 fxe6 27.Ne4 axb3 28.axb3 Nxb3 29.Rf6! Nd4 30.Rxh6 g2-g4 would now be deadly. **30...Kc6 31.h4 Be7 32.h5** White is clearly winning. **32...b5 33.cxb5+ Kd5 34.b6 c4 35.Rh7 Bb4 36.b7 Rb8 37.Nf6+ Kc6 38.Rb1 Bd2 39.Nd7 Rxb7 40.Nxe5+ Kd5 41.Rbxb7 Kxe5 42.Rhc7 c3**

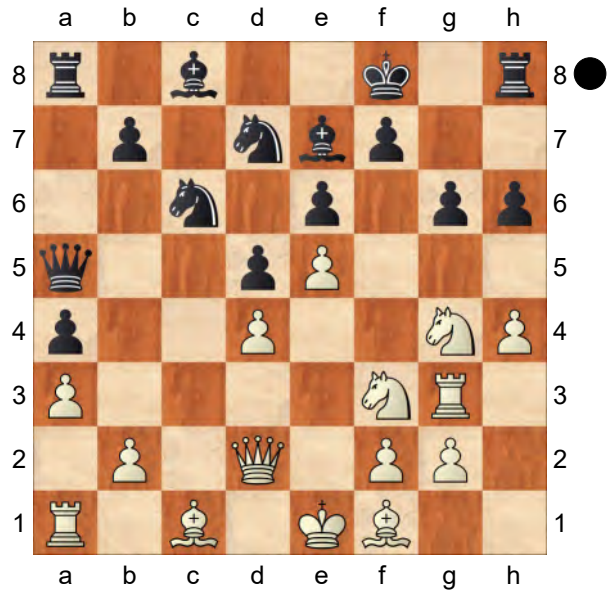


43.h6! Bxh6 44.Rxc3 Ke4 45.Rh3 Bf4 46.g3 Be3 47.Kg2 e5 48.Rh5 Bd2 49.Rf7 Nc2 50.g4 Bf4 51.g5 g5-g6 is the strong threat. **51...Ne3+ 52.Kh3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.30
1-0

C11
□ **Carlsen,Magnus 2832**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2778**
FIDE World Bl Team Final blitz (4.2)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Be7 8.a3 a5 0.65/22
[8...0-0!= 0.00/21]
9.h4!? Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
9...a4N
[9...b5 10.Nf4 Ba6 11.Bd3 Qb6 12.Be3 Carlsen,M (2826)-Howell,D (2633) 113/111 London 2011 b4 13.Bxa6 Rxa6 14.axb4 axb4 15.0-0 0-0 16.Rxa6 Qxa6 17.h5 h6 18.Nh2 bxc3 19.bxc3 Qc4 20.Qg4 cxd4 21.cxd4 Nxd4 22.Rc1 Nc2 23.Nxe6 Qxg4 24.Nxg4 Nxe3 25.Nxf8 Kxf8 26.Rc8+ Carlsen,M (2862)-Maghsoodloo,P (2676) chess.com (Int. -m3/6-blitz) 146/(94) 2020]
10.Nf4 White is slightly better. **10...Qa5!** Strongly threatening ...c5xd4. **11.Bd2 Qb6N**
[Vorgänger: 11...Qc7 0.80/19 11...Qa5-b6 0.00 12.Qc2 Nb6 13.Bd3 0.36/19 *(13.Be3± 0.75/20)* 13...h5 1.06/20 *(Black should try 13...Bd7±* 0.36/19 *)* 14.Be3 Nc4 1.58/16 *(⌓14...Na5* 0.76/19 *)* 15.Bxc4± dxc4 16.Rd1 b5 17.Qe4 aiming for d4-d5. cxd4 18.cxd4 Martins,K (1636)-Bottoni,C (1679) CP-2018-P-00036 1-0]
12.Bc1 Qa5 And now ...c5xd4 would win. **13.Qd2 cxd4 14.cxd4 Nb6 15.Nh5 Kf8 16.Rh3** Threatens to win with Rh3-g3. **16...h6 17.Rg3 g6 18.Nf6**

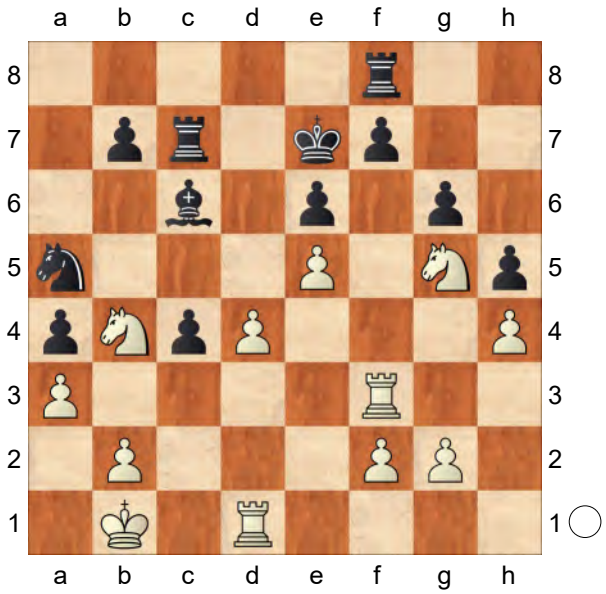
Nd7 19.Ng4



Qd2xa5 is the strong threat. **19...h5 20.Ne3 Nb6 21.Nc2 Bd7 22.Qxa5**
[22.Qc3 looks sharper. Kg7 23.Rb1 Rhb8 24.Bd2]
22...Nxa5 23.Bg5! Rc8 24.0-0-0 Bxg5+ 25.Nxg5 Ke7 26.Kb1 Rc7
[26...Rhd8 simplifies 27.Rf3 Be8 28.Rc3 Rxc3 29.bxc3 Nc8]
27.Rf3 Rf8 28.Be2 Nbc4 29.Bxc4 dxc4 1.63/24 Black is weak on the dark squares
[29...Rxc4= 0.00/26 and Black is okay. 30.Rdd3 Bb5]
30.Nb4 1.17/22 A dynamic duo of knights.
[30.Ne3+- 1.63/24]
30...Bc6 1.75/23
[30...c3± 1.17/22 is a better defense.]

(Diagram)

31.Rf6 0.44/22
[31.d5!+- 1.75/23 exd5 32.Rxd5 *(32.Nxd5+ Bxd5 33.Rxd5 Nb3±)*]
31...Rd7± 32.Kc2



[32.Rf4 simplifies f5 33.exf6+ Rxf6 34.Rxf6 Kxf6 35.Kc2]
32...Bd5! 33.Kc3 b5? 3.02/20
A mistake that costs the game.
[33...Nc6!± 0.34/20]
34.f3+- Nb7 35.g4 Nd8 36.gxh5 gxh5 37.Rh6 2.12/19
[⌓37.f4 3.57/22]
37...Ke8? 5.35/22
[37...f6 2.12/19 38.exf6+ Rxf6 39.Rxh5 Nf7 *(39...Bxf3?* is the wrong capture. *40.Rh7+ Kd6 41.Rxd7+ Kxd7 42.Rf1+-)*]
38.Nh7 Bxf3 39.Rf1 Bg4 40.Nxf8 Kxf8 41.Rh8+ Kg7 42.Re8 Nb7 43.Nc6 White is clearly winning. **43...Bf5 44.Rg1+ Bg4 45.Rf1 Bf5 46.Re7 Rxe7 47.Nxe7** KRN-KBN **47...Bg4 48.Kb4 Kf8 49.Nc8 Nd8 50.Rf2 Nc6+ 51.Kc5 Ne7 52.Nxe7**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.41
1-0

D35
□ **Ding,Liren** **2745**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
FIDE World Rapid Team (6.13) 03.08.24
[Kitty Kat]

D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation
Martinovic,SI: 'Inf 109/235' **1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nd7 4.Nc3 Ngf6 5.Bf4 Bb4 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Rc1N**
[7.Nd2 c5 8.a3 Bxc3 9.bxc3 Qa5 10.Qb3 b6 11.e4 cxd4 12.cxd4 Nxe4 13.f3 Qc3 14.Qxc3 Nxc3 15.Rc1 Chapter-Games Chapter 3 (1)]
[7.Qb3 c5 8.dxc5 Qa5 9.a3 Bxc3+ 10.bxc3 Qxc5 11.Qb4 Ne4 12.Nd4 b6 13.f3 a5 14.Qxc5 Nexc5 15.Nf5 Ne6 16.Bg3 g6 17.Nd6+ Ke7 18.e3 Rd8 19.Rb1 Ba6 20.Kf2 Aronian,L (2754)-Eljanov,P (2693) Nalchik 109/235 2009]
[7.e3 Ne4 8.Qb3 *(8.Qc2 g5 9.Be5 Rg8 10.Bd3 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 g4 12.Bxe4 dxe4 13.Qxe4 Qe7 14.Qxh7 Rf8 15.Nd2 Nxe5 16.dxe5 Qxe5 17.Qe4 Qxe4 18.Nxe4 Ke7 19.0-0 Bf5 20.Nc5 b6 21.e4 Bc8 22.Nd3 Bb7* Chapter 1 - 4...Nbd7 5.Bf4-6.cxd5 critical line 2023*)* 8...c5 9.dxc5 Bxc3+ 10.bxc3 Ndxc5 11.Qa3 0-0 12.Be2 Bg4 13.Rd1 Re8 14.0-0 Ne6 15.Bg3 Qc8 16.Rc1 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Nf6 18.Rfd1 Qc6 19.Qd6 Qa4 20.Qb4 Qxa2 21.Bd3 a5 Line 1 (2559)-6.♘a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2712) Capablanca Memorial, Havana 2003 (2) ½-½]
7...Ne4 8.Nd2 Nxd2 9.Qxd2 next a2-a3 is good for White. **9...Nf6 10.e3** 0.06/25
[10.a3± 0.44/21 Bxc3 11.Rxc3 *(11.Qxc3 c6±)*]
10...Bf5 11.Bd3 Bxd3 12.Qxd3 c6 Inhibits Qd3-b5. **13.0-0 0-0 14.a3 Be7 15.Bg5 a5 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Na4 Be7 18.Nc5 Qc7 19.Rc2 Bd6 20.g3 a4 21.Rc3 Ra5 22.Qc2 Rfa8 23.Kg2 g6 24.Re1 Qe7 25.Rc1 Kg7 26.Qd1 h5 27.h4 R8a7 28.Qc2 Kh7 29.Qd1 Kg7 30.Nd3 Rb5 31.Qf3 Ra6 32.R1c2 Rab6 33.Kf1 Rb3 34.Rxb3** The position is equal. **34...Rxb3 35.Nc1 Rb5 36.Ne2 Rb3 37.Nc1 Rb6 38.Ne2 Rb3 39.Nc1** Not much happened in this game.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

D45
□ **Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar** **2733**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
FIDE World Rapid Team (4.13) 02.08.24
[Kitty Kat]

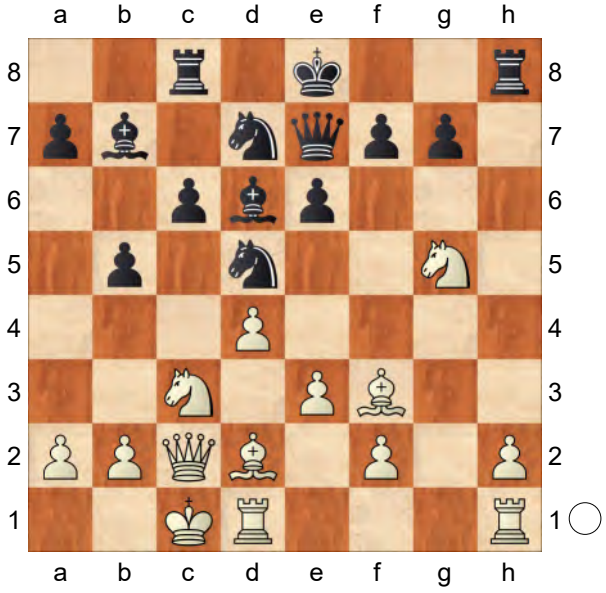
D45: Semi-Slav: 5 e3
Vera,R: 'Inf 83/(396)' **1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Nf3N**
[5.Bd2 Nbd7 6.Rc1 Bd6 7.c5 Bc7 8.f4 0-0 9.Nf3 Ne4 10.Nxe4 dxe4 11.Ng5 e5 12.Bc4 exf4 13.Qh5 Nf6 14.Nxf7 Qe7 15.Nh6+ Kh8 16.Nf7+ Kg8 17.Ng5+ Kh8 Vera Gonzalez Quevedo,R (2563)-Collas,D (2378) 83/(396) Albacete 2001]
[5.b3 Bb4 *(5...Nbd7 6.Bb2 Bd6 7.Bd3 0-0 8.c5 Bc7 9.f4 b6 10.cxb6 Bxb6 11.Nf3 c5 12.0-0 cxd4 13.exd4 Bb7 14.Na4 Ne4 15.b4 Bc7 16.Ne5 Nxe5 17.fxe5 f6 18.Qg4 Qe7 19.Nc5 Nxc5 20.exf6* Lunacek,J (2720)-6. ♘a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2718) 153/100 Chicago 2022 (7)

½-½) 6.Bb2 Ne4 7.Qc2 f5 8.Bd3 Qg5 9.f4 Qh4+ 10.g3 Qh5 11.Be2 Qh6 12.Bf3 Nd7 13.Nge2 Ndf6 14.a3 Bd6 15.h3 g5 16.0-0-0 Nf2 17.Kb1 Bd7 18.Bc1 gxf4 19.exf4 Nxd1 Lunacek,J (2719)-6.♘a3 cd4 7. cd4 ♗d7 (2722) 54/146 Barcelona 1992 (7) 0-1]

5...Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.g4 h6 8.g5 hxg5 9.Nxg5 Qe7 10.Bd2 The position is equal. **10...dxc4 11.Bxc4 b5 12.Be2 Bb7 13.Bf3! Rc8 14.0-0-0** -0.23/20

[⌓14.h4 0.17/21]

14...Nd5↑



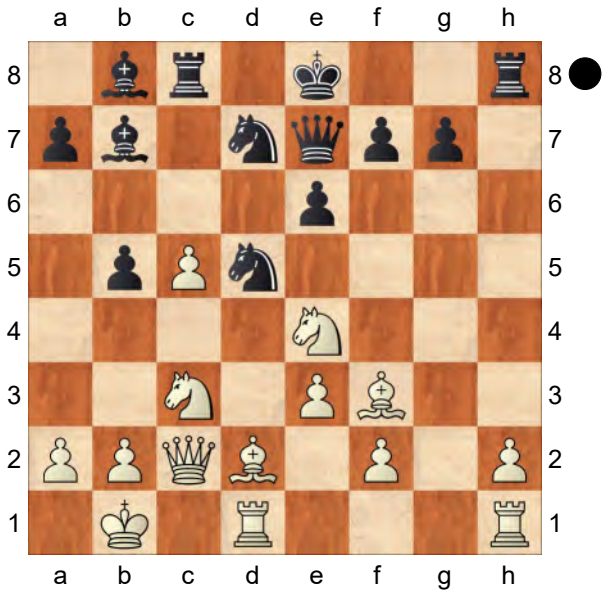
Threatens to win with ...Nd5xc3. Black is more active. **15.Nge4 Bb8 16.Kb1 c5** 0.09/19

[Black should play 16...b4!∓ -0.48/20 17.Na4 c5 18.dxc5 *(18.Naxc5 f5∓; 18.Nexc5? Nxe3* Discovered Attack *19.fxe3 Bxf3∓)* 18...f5 *(18...Bxh2? 19.Qb3+-)* 19.Nd6+ Bxd6 20.cxd6 Qxd6]

17.dxc5 -1.25/24

[17.Nxd5!= 0.09/19 keeps the balance. Bxd5 18.Bb4]

(Diagram)



17...b4 -0.57/22 Black is more active.

[17...f5!∓ -1.25/24 18.Nd6+ Bxd6 19.Bxd5 *(19.cxd6 Qh4∓)* 19...Nxc5 *(19...Bxd5 20.Nxd5 Qf7 21.Nf4±)* 20.Bxb7 Qxb7]

18.Nxd5∓ exd5 19.Bxb4 -1.58/22 **dxe4∓ 20.Bg4 Bc6**

[20...Rxh2? 21.Rxh2 *(21.Bxd7+ Qxd7 22.Rxh2 Qc6+-)* 21...Bxh2 22.Bxd7+ *(22.Rxd7 Qxd7 23.Bxd7+ Kxd7+-)* 22...Qxd7 23.Rxd7 Kxd7 24.Qd1+ Ke8 25.Qh5+-]

21.Qc3 -2.93/19

[⌓21.Qb3 -1.70/21 Rc7 *(21...Bxh2 22.Bxd7+ Bxd7 23.c6±)* 22.Bc3]

21...Be5-+

[21...Bxh2 22.Rxd7 *(22.Qxg7 Qe5=)* 22...Bxd7 23.c6 *(23.Qxg7 Qe5=)* 23...Rxc6 24.Qd4+- *(24.Bxe7? Rxc3-+)*]

22.Qa3 Hoping for Bg4xd7+. **22...Rb8**

[22...Bxh2? 23.Bxd7+ *(23.Qxa7 Ne5+-)* 23...Qxd7 24.Rxd7 Kxd7 25.Qxa7+ Rc7 26.Qa6+-]

23.Bxd7+ Bxd7 24.b3 -4.12/20

[⌓24.Bc3 -2.68/18 Bc6 *(24...Bxh2 25.Qxa7 Rd8 26.Bxg7=)* 25.h4]

24...Bc6

[24...Bxh2 25.c6 Qxb4 *(25...Rxb4? too greedy. 26.cxd7+ Kd8 27.Rc1+-)* 26.cxd7+ Kd8 27.Qb2± *(27.Qxa7 Rh6∓)*]

25.Qa6 Qb7 26.Qa5 -5.22/20

[⌓26.Qxb7 -3.48/20 Rxb7 27.Be1]

26...Bc7

Weighted Error Value: White=0.55/ Black=0.22 (precise)

[26...Qxb4? 27.Rd8+ Ke7 28.Qxb4 Rhxd8 *(28...Rxb4 29.Rxh8 Bb5 30.Ra8∓; 28...Rbxd8 29.Qa5∓)* 29.Qa5-+]

0-1

D02

□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2733**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**

Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.21)
[Kitty Kat]

D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bf4N

[3.g3 c5 4.c4 dxc4 5.Bg2 Nc6 6.Qa4 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Qxd4 8.Bxc6+ Bd7 9.Be3 Bxc6 10.Qxc6+ bxc6 11.Bxd4 Bb4+ 12.Kf1 Nf6 13.Kg2 c5 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Rc1 Rd8 16.Kf3 Ke7 17.a3 Ba5 Wiacek,K (2526)-2. Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 (2657) CSSR 13/249 1972 (1) 0-1 18.Nc3 Rb8 19.Na4 Rb3+ 20.e3 c3 21.bxc3 c4 22.Nc5 Rxc3 23.Rcb1 Rc8 24.Rb5 Bd8 25.Rd1 f5 26.Rd7+ Ke8 27.Rxa7 Be7 28.Na6 Rxa3 29.Rbb7 Bd6 30.Nc7+ Kf8 31.Rxa3 Bxa3 32.Nb5 Be7 Wiacek,K (2526)-2. ♘c3 ♘c6 3.g3 g6 4. ♗g2 (2657) CSSR 13/249 1972 (1) 0-1]

[3.e3 Nf6 4.Bd3 c5 5.c3 b6 6.Nbd2 Bb7 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Qe2 Be7 9.e4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 0-0 Beginner Guide Sarin Queen'-Sarin Queen'S Gambit Colle,S 1… e6 Against Everything 2024]

3...Nf6 4.e3 Bd6 5.Bg3 b6 6.Nbd2 0.07/23

[6.c4± 0.46/22 deserves consideration.]

6...Bb7 The old main line.The old main line. **7.Ne5 Nbd7** 0.42/20

[7...0-0= 0.00/18]

8.f4 0.00/22

[8.Bb5± 0.42/20]

8...0-0= 9.c3 Ne4 10.Nxe4 dxe4 11.Be2N -0.10/21

[Vorgänger: 11.Bb5 Nb8 12.Qg4 0.20/19 *(12.0-0± 0.68/20)* 12...f5= 13.Qh5 Bxe5 14.fxe5 Qc8 15.0-0 Ba6 16.Bxa6 Nxa6 17.Bh4 -0.19/19 Ajay Krishna,S (2382)-Solodovnichenko,Y (2489) Alicante Easter op 7th 2023 (4) 1-0 *(17.Rad1± 0.31/19)*]

[11.Bb5± 0.34/23 Nxe5 12.fxe5]

11...Nf6= 12.0-0 c5 13.Bh4 Be7 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Nc4 f5 16.Kh1 Kh8 17.Rg1 Rg8 0.34/22

[17...cxd4∓ -0.31/21 18.cxd4 b5]

18.Ne5 -0.21/23

[18.dxc5± 0.34/22 Bxc5 *(18...bxc5 19.Ne5=)* 19.b4]

18...Rg7 19.Bh5 -0.57/21

[19.Bb5= -0.13/20]

19...Qg8!∓ 20.dxc5 Rd8 0.07/22 Repels Qd1-d7

[20...f6!∓ -0.62/21 21.c6 Ba6]

21.Qe2 -0.55/24

[21.Qa4= 0.07/22 f6 22.c6 *(22.Qxa7? Bxc5 23.Qa4 fxe5-+)* 22...fxe5 23.cxb7]

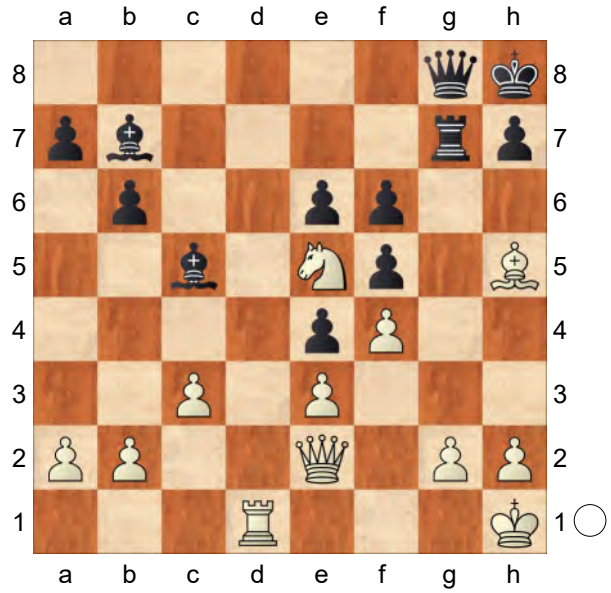
21...Bxc5 0.29/27

[21...f6!∓ -0.55/24 22.c6 Ba8]

22.Rad1

[22.g4 feels hotter. Bxe3 23.Qxe3 f6 24.gxf5 fxe5 25.f6]

22...Rxd1 23.Rxd1 f6



24.Nf7+ Deflection **24...Rxf7 25.Bxf7 Qxf7 26.Rd8+** -1.32/23

[26.b4!= 0.14/21 remains equal. Bf8 27.Qb5]

26...Kg7∓ 27.Qb5 -2.27/21

[27.b4∓ -1.18/24 Qe7 28.Qd1]

27...a6!-+

[27...Bxe3? 28.Rd7+-]

28.Qe2 b5 29.b4 -3.16/23

[⌓29.Qe1 -1.90/23 h6 30.Qg3+ Kh7 31.b4]

29...Be7 -1.57/21

[29...Bb6-+ -3.16/23 is more deadly. 30.Rd6 Qc7 *(30...Bc7? 31.Rd2-+)*]

30.Rd7∓ Bd5 31.a4 -1.68/23 **Qe8-+**

[31...bxa4 32.Qxa6 Qe8 *(32...Bb3? 33.Qa7+-)* 33.Qxa4±]

32.Ra7 Kf8 And now ...Bd5-c4 would win.

[32...bxa4 33.Qxa6 Bc6 34.h3+-]

33.Rxa6 -2.86/22

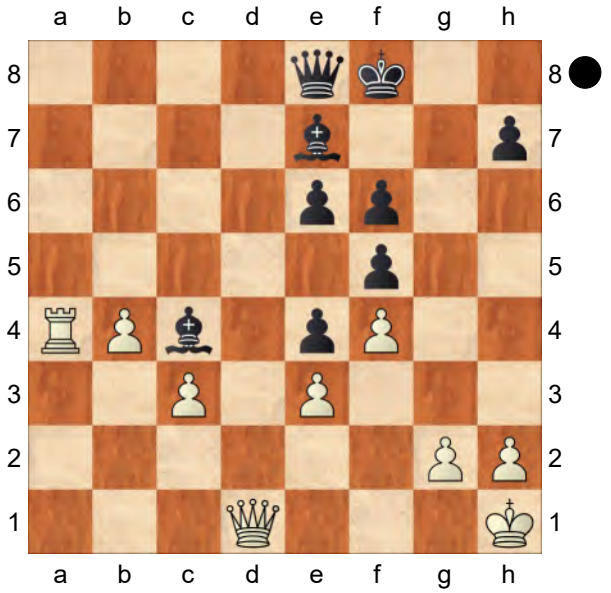
[33.axb5 -1.65/24 was necessary. axb5 34.Qd1]

33...Bc4? -0.27/22

[33...bxa4 34.Ra5∓]

[33...Qc8-+ -2.86/22 *(34.Qxb5? Bc4-+)* 34...Qxc3]

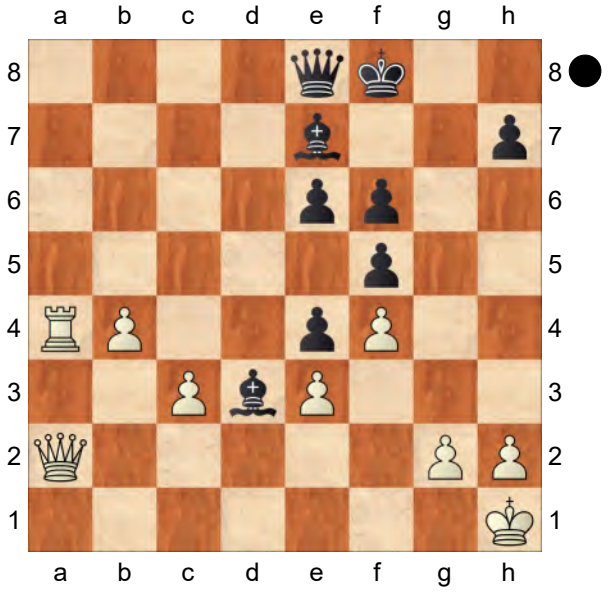
34.Qd1= bxa4 35.Rxa4



Be2 0.32/26 Against h2-h3 **36.Qc2** -0.12/25

[36.Qa1± 0.32/26 Kf7 37.Ra8]

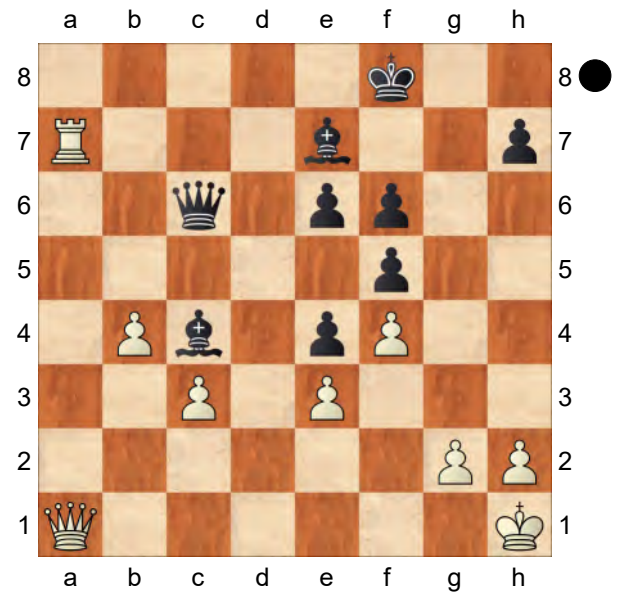
36...Bd3 37.Qa2



Ra4-a8! would now be deadly. **37...Bc4!** Deflection **38.Qa1 Qc6** White must now prevent ...e6-e5. **39.Ra7** -1.21/23

[39.Ra8+= 0.00/21 Kf7 40.Rh8]

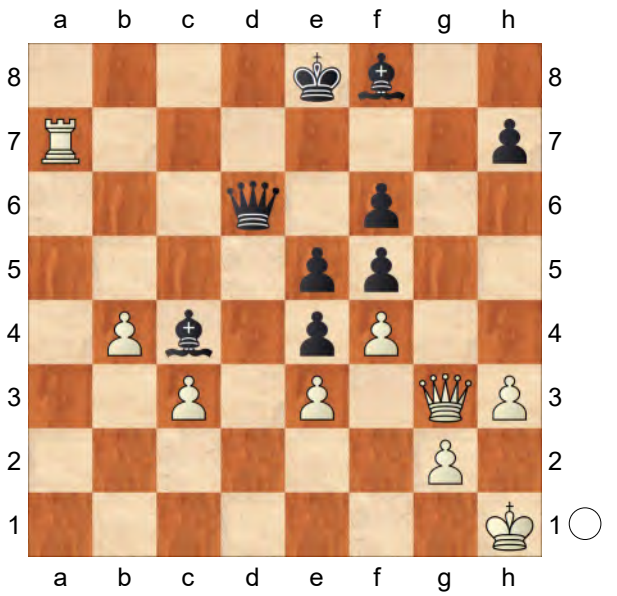
(Diagram)



39...Qb6 0.00/27
[Black should try 39...e5!∓ -1.21/23 Strongly threatening ...e5xf4. 40.g3 Qd5]
40.Ra8+ Kf7 0.42/25
[40...Kg7= 0.00/27 41.Qa7 Qxa7 42.Rxa7 Kf8]
41.Qe1 -0.08/27
[41.Qa4± 0.42/25 Bb5 *(41...Qxe3 42.Qe8+* Deflection *Kg7 43.Qxe7+ Kg6 44.Rg8+* Deflection *Kh6 45.Qxf6+ Kh5 46.Qg5#)* 42.Qa7]
41...Qd6 42.h3 e5 43.Qg3 Bf8 44.Ra7+ Ke8? 3.81/22
[44...Be7= 0.00/20]

(Diagram)

45.Qh4!+-
[45.Rxh7 Bf7±]
45...exf4? 5.92/22
[45...Be7 3.43/20 is a better defense. 46.Qxh7 Be6 47.Qh5+ Kf8 48.fxe5 fxe5]
46.Qh5+
[46.Rxh7? Qd1+ *(46...fxe3 47.Qh5+ Kd8 48.Ra7-+)* 47.Kh2 fxe3-+]



46...Kd8 47.Qxf5? 2.11/23
[47.Ra8+ 5.37/25 Kc7 48.Qe8 *(48.Qxf5 Ba6+-; 48.Qxh7+ Be7+-)*]
47...f3? 6.67/24
[47...Bd5 2.11/23]
48.Ra8+ White is clearly winning.
[48.Qxe4 Qd1+ 49.Kh2 Bd6+]
48...Ke7 49.Ra7+ Skewer
[49.gxf3 Qd1+ 50.Kh2 Qe2+ 51.Kg3 Qe1+ 52.Kh2 Qf2+ 53.Kh1 Qxf3+ *(53...exf3 54.Ra7+* Skewer *Kd6 55.Qd7+ Ke5 56.Ra5+)* 54.Qxf3 exf3∓]
49...Kd8 50.Qa5+
[50.Qxe4 Qd1+ 51.Kh2 Bd6+]
50...Ke8 51.Qh5+
[51.Rxh7 Qd1+ 52.Kh2 Bd6+]
51...Kd8 52.Qa5+
[52.Rxh7 Qd1+ 53.Kh2 Bd6+]
52...Ke8 53.Qh5+
[53.Rxh7 Qd1+ 54.Kh2 Bd6+]
53...Kd8 (-> ...Qd6-d1+) **54.Qa5+?** 0.00/48 White used his chance.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.51/ Black=0.66
[54.Rxh7 is a self mate. Qd1+ 55.Kh2 Bd6+]
[White has to play 54.Ra8++- 5.84/30

Kc7 55.Qa5+ *(55.gxf3 Qd1+ 56.Kg2 Bf1+ 57.Kh1 Be2+ 58.Kh2 Bd6+ 59.f4 Bxh5 60.Rg8 Qd2+ 61.Rg2 Qxe3 62.Rg7+ Kb6 63.Kg2 Bf3+ 64.Kf1 Qe2+ 65.Kg1 Qe1+ 66.Kh2 Bxf4+; 55.Qxh7+ Be7=)* 55...Kd7 *(55...Kb7? 56.Qa7+* Skewer *Kc6 57.Rc8+ Kd5 58.Qd4+* Deflection, Double Attack *Ke6 59.Qxe4+ Kf7 60.Qxh7+ Ke6 61.Qe4+ Kf7 62.Qxc4++-)* 56.Rd8+ Ke6 57.Rxd6+ Bxd6 58.Qa8 *(58.gxf3 exf3 59.Qa8 Bd5+-)*]

½-½

D31

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2733**
Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.10)
[Kitty Kat]

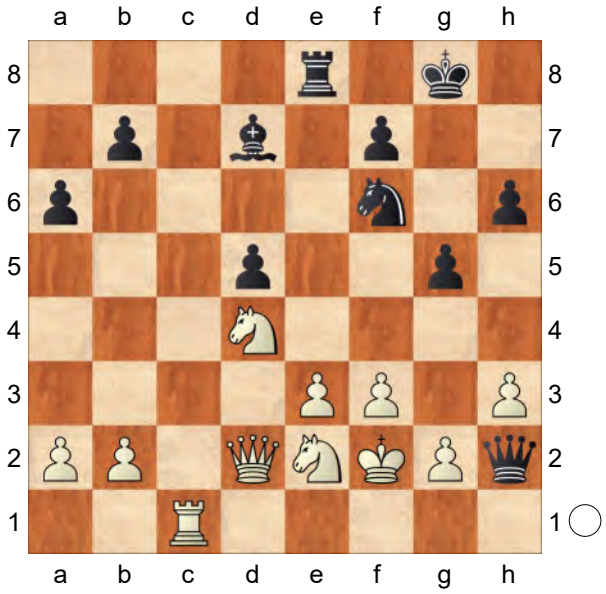
D31: Queen's Gambit Declined: Semi-Slav without ...Nf6 (+ Marshall Gambit and Noteboom) and Exchange Variation lines without ...Nf6

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 a6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 h6 6.Bf4 Nf6 7.e3 Bd6 8.Bxd6 White is slightly better. **8...Qxd6 9.Bd3 0-0 10.Qc2 Be6 11.0-0 Nbd7 12.Rac1!?** An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **12...Rac8 13.h3 c5 14.dxc5 Nxc5 15.Rfd1N Qe7N**

[Vorgänger: 15...Qb6 16.Nd4 Nce4 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Nxe6 Qxe6 19.Rd4 Rc5 20.Qb3 Qxb3 21.axb3 Zhou,J (2625)-Zvjaginsev,V (2644) Xingtai op 2018 (5) ½-½]

16.Nd4 Nxd3 17.Qxd3 Rc7 18.Nce2 Rfc8 19.Rxc7 Rxc7 20.f3 Bd7 21.Qd2 Rc8 22.Nf4 Re8 23.Kf2 Qd6 24.Rc1 g5 25.Nfe2 Qh2? 3.56/22

[25...Qe5± 0.58/21]



Loses the game. **26.Ng3!+-** And now Rc1-h1 would win. A dynamic duo of knights. **26...Bxh3 27.Rg1 Bxg2 28.Rxg2** White is clearly winning. **28...Qh3 29.Ndf5 h5** 11.39/21

[⌓29...Re5 4.86/19 30.Qc3 d4 31.exd4 *(31.Qxd4 Rxf5 32.Nxf5 Qxf5±)* 31...Re2+ 32.Nxe2 Qxf5]

30.Qd4 Re6 31.Kg1 h4 32.Rh2 Trapped Piece.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.35

1-0

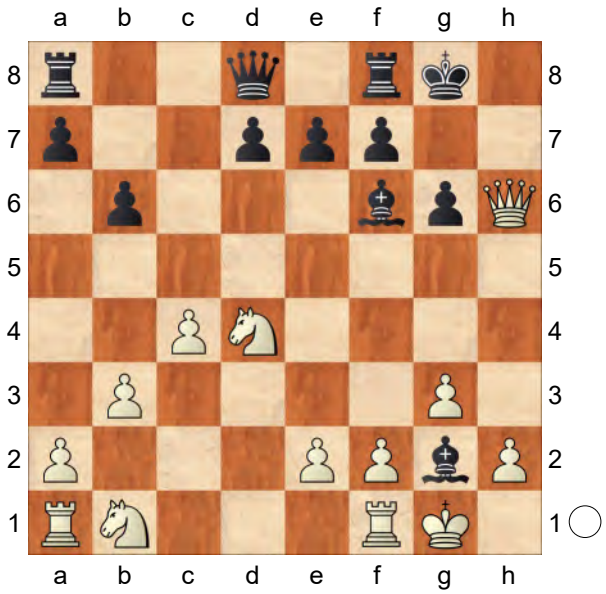
A30

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2733**
Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.20)
[Kitty Kat]

A30: Symmetrical English: Double Fianchetto and Hedgehog
A30: Ouverture anglaise (variante symétrique)
RR: 'Inf 92/(15)' RR: 'Inf 92/(15)

LesEchecs.com: 'A30: Ouverture anglaise (variante symétrique)
" Current Reputation: Playable for both sides **1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.g3 Bb7 4.Bg2 c5**
[4...e6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Nc3 0-0 7.Re1 *(7.b3 d5 8.Bb2 c5 9.e3 Nbd7 10.Qe2 Rc8 11.Rfd1 Qc7 12.Rac1 Qb8 13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.Nxd5 Bxd5 15.e4 Bb7 16.d4 cxd4 17.Rxc8 Rxc8 18.Nxd4 Nc5 19.e5 Bxg2 20.Kxg2 a6 21.Rc1 b5* English Opening,C-Anglo Indian Defense 029 Linz 2012*)* 7...d5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.e4 Nxc3 10.bxc3 Nc6 11.d4 Na5 12.Ne5 Bd6 13.f4 Qe8 14.Be3 Rd8 15.Bf2 c5 16.Qe2 Qa4 17.dxc5 bxc5 18.Rab1 Rc8 19.Qd1 Hantel,T (2740)-11.Bd2 (2760) Zurich Hilton op 1999 (2) ½-½]
5.0-0 g6N
[5...e6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.Re1 Ne4 8.Nxe4 Bxe4 9.d3 Bb7 10.e4 0-0 11.d4 cxd4 12.Nxd4 a6 13.b3 Nc6 14.Bb2 Qc7 15.Qg4 f6 16.Rad1 Rf7 17.h4 Bc5 18.Re2 b5 19.cxb5 Nxd4 20.Bxd4 Sasikiran,K (2668)-Vallejo Pons,F (2678) (ol) 92/(15) 2004 Bxd4 21.Rxd4 axb5 22.Red2 Bc6 Skopec,L (2668)-15. ♘c4 0-0 16. ♕e5 ♖ab8 (2678) Sants 107/(198) 2009]
6.b3 Bg7 7.Bb2 0-0 8.d4 Nowadays more popular than 8.Nc3. is the new trend. Heutzutage beliebter als 8.Sc3. ist der neue Trend. **8...cxd4 9.Qxd4 Nc6 10.Qh4 h6 11.g4!?N** Exploring less charted territory.Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
[Vorgänger: 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.Qxh6 Nd4 0.90/23 *(12...Nb4± 0.49/21 13.Na3 e5)* 13.Nxd4± Bxg2

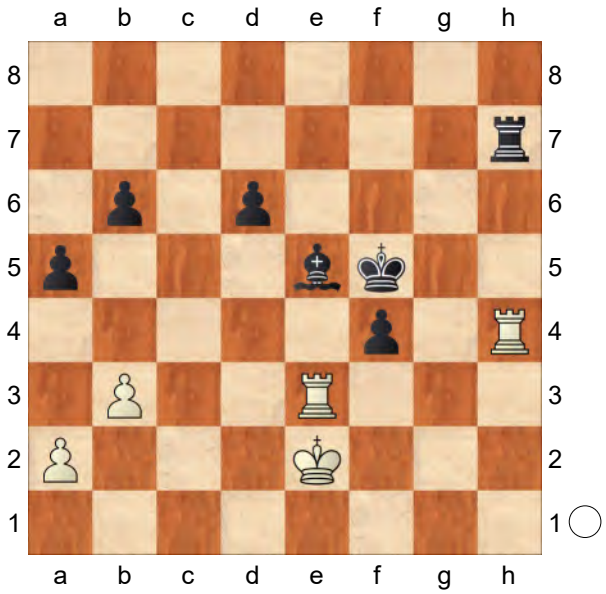
(Diagram)



14.Rd1! Bb7 15.Nc3 Rc8 16.Nd5 0.53/23 *(*Better is *16.e4± 1.10/21)* 16...Bxd5± 17.cxd5 Rc5 Aronyak,G (2429)-Sengupta,D (2403) Kolkata Rapid op 2024 (11) ½-½]
[11.Bxf6!? exf6 *(11...Bxf6 12.Qxh6 e6 13.Nc3±)* 12.Nc3±]
11...g5 12.Qh3 The position is equal.
12...d6 13.Nbd2 -0.18/23
[Vorgänger: 13.Nc3 -0.87/21 13.Bb2xf6 0.26 Qd7 14.Nd5 Nxg4 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.Rad1 f5 17.Nd2 -1.84/19 *(17.Nd4∓* -1.36/19 was called for.*)* 17...Nce5-+ 18.f4 Ng6 -1.46/19 *(* Black should try *18...gxf4-+* -1.90/21 And now ... Bb7xd5 would win. *19.Nxf4 Bxg2 20.Nxg2 Rac8)* 19.Qc3+ Erigaisi,A (2778)-Duda,J (2733) Chess.com SpeedChess blitz 2024 (1.18) 0-1]
[⌓13.Bxf6 0.28/24 exf6 14.Na3]
13...Qd7= 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.Qxh6 Hoping for Nf3xg5!
[15.Rad1 simplifies Bg7 16.Ne4 Bc8 17.Nexg5 Qxg4 18.Qxg4 Bxg4 19.h3]
15...Qxg4 16.Rae1 h2-h3 is the strong threat. **16...Nd4**

[16...Qf5 simplifies 17.e3 Rad8 18.h3 Rd7]
17.h3 Nxf3+ 18.Nxf3 Qf5
[18...Qe4 simplifies 19.Nh4 Qxh4 20.Qxh4 gxh4 21.Bxb7 Rab8]
19.e4 Bxe4
[19...Qh7 simplifies 20.Qxh7+ Kxh7 21.e5 dxe5 22.Nxg5+ Bxg5 23.Bxb7 Rad8]
20.Nd4 Qg6 21.Qxg6+ Bxg6
A strong pair of Bishops. **22.Bxa8 Bxd4 23.Be4** Black must now prevent Be4xg6. **23...Bh5 24.Kg2 e5 25.Bf5 Kg7 26.Rh1 Kf6 27.Be4 Rg8** Black has compensation. **28.f3 a5 29.Kf1 Ke7 30.Ke2 Rf8** ...f7-f5 would now be deadly. **31.h4 g4 32.fxg4 Bxg4+ 33.Bf3 Be6** 0.56/28
[33...Bf5= 0.00/23]
34.h5± f5 35.Bd5 Bxd5 36.cxd5 Endgame. Threatens to win with h5-h6. KRR-KRB **36...e4?** 3.42/25
[36...Rh8± 0.57/25]
37.h6+- Kf6 38.h7 Rh8 39.Rh4 0.33/22
[39.Kd1+- 2.47/26]
39...Kg5!± 40.Reh1 f4! 41.Rh5+ Kg4 42.R1h4+ Kg3 43.Kf1 e3? 1.56/27
[43...Bf6!= 0.05/23 44.Rh1 Kg4]
44.Rh3+ Kg4 45.R5h4+ Kf5 46.Ke2 Really sharp! **46...Ke4** 4.54/28
[46...Bf6± 1.55/18]
47.Rf3+- Be5 48.Rxe3+ Kxd5 49.Rd3+ Ke4 6.12/21
[⌓49...Ke6 4.02/18 50.Rd1 Kf6]
50.Re3+ White is clearly winning.
50...Kf5 51.Reh3 Ke4 52.Rg3 Rxh7 53.Re3+ Zwischenzug
[53.Rxh7 fxg3 54.Rd7 d5-+]
53...Kf5

(Diagram)



54.Rxe5+!
[Less strong is 54.Rxh7 fxe3 55.Kxe3 Ke6±]
54...dxe5 55.Rxh7
Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.41
1-0

A13
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2733**
Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.12)
[Kitty Kat]

A13: English Opening: 1...e6
1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.e3 d5 4.b3 Be7 5.Bb2 0-0
[5...c5 6.d4 0-0 7.Nbd2 Nc6 8.a3 b6 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Bb5 Bb7 11.0-0 Rc8 12.Rc1 Nb8 13.Bd3 Ne4 14.Rc2 Bd6 15.Qa1 f6 16.Rfc1 Qe8 17.dxc5 Nxc5 18.Bf1 Qg6 19.b4 Nb3 20.Nh4 Mollison,J (1914)-Rathbone Jones,I (2014) BCF-ch AM op 2024 (5) 0-1]
6.Nc3 c5 6...c5 scores better than 6...b6. 6...c5 punktet besser als 6...b6.

[6...b6 7.d4 Bb7 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Bd3 Bd6 10.Qc2 Nbd7 11.0-0 a6 12.Ne2 Re8 13.Ng3 g6 14.Rfd1 Qe7 15.Rac1 Rac8 16.Qe2 Ng4 17.Rc2 f5 18.a4 a5 19.Re1 Ndf6 20.Ba6 Bxa6 21.Qxa6 Fazulyanov,S (2237)-Dvalishvili,P (2454) 89/(134) Vladimir 2003]

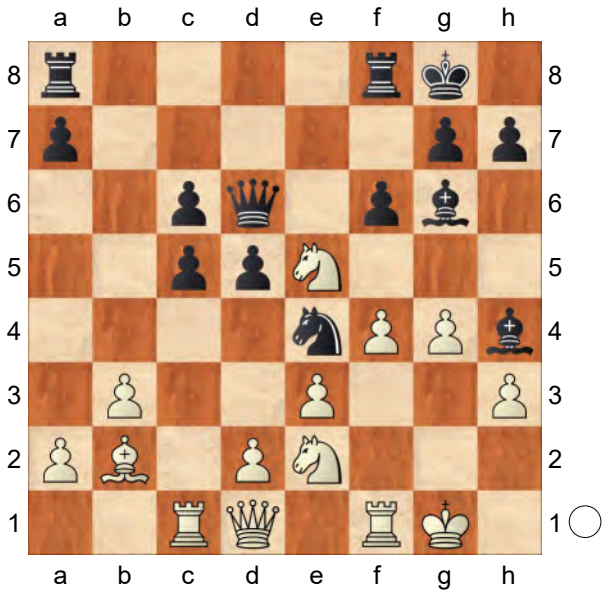
7.cxd5 exd5 8.Rc1N

[8.d4 Nc6 *(8...cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nc6 10.Be2 Qb6 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.0-0 Bf5 13.Rc1 Ne4 14.Nxe4 Bxe4 15.Bf3 Bxf3 16.Qxf3 f5 17.Rc2 Rac8 18.Rfc1 Qb5 19.h3 h6 20.Qg3 Bf6 21.Bxf6 Rxf6 22.Qe5 Qb7 23.Rc5* Costantini,M (2422)-5.♗g2 d5 6.00 43949 (1727) Villahermosa Tabasco-ch 2023 (4) 1-0*)* 9.Be2 Bf5 10.0-0 h6 11.Rc1 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Bg6 13.Bd3 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 g6 15.Rfd1 Qd7 16.Qe2 Rad8 17.Na4 Rc8 18.Nc5 Bxc5 19.Rxc5 Ne4 20.Rcc1 Nb4 21.a3 Na2 22.Rxc8 Rxc8 Yashchenko (1613)-11.♗e3 ♖e8 12. ♗d3 10092 (1875) 82/307 Dortmund 2001 (7) 0-1]

8...Nc6 9.Bb5 Bg4 10.Bxc6 The position is equal. **10...bxc6 11.h3 Bh5 12.Na4N**

[Vorgänger: 12.g4 -0.57/23 12.Nc3-a4 -0.17 Bg6 13.Ne5 -1.83/18 *(13.0-0∓* -0.63/21 *)* 13...Qd6? -0.10/20 *(13...d4-+* -1.83/18 *14.Nxc6 Qd6 15.Nxe7+ Qxe7)* 14.Ne2 Ne4 0.38/21 *(14...Nd7∓* -0.35/17 *15.Nxd7 Qxd7)* 15.0-0± d2-d3 is the strong threat. Bh4 1.23/21 *(*Better is *15...Bf6±* 0.37/19 *)* 16.f4 0.61/19 *(16.f3!±* 1.23/21 *)* 16...f6? 3.51/23 *(16...Rae8!±* 0.61/19 *)*

(Diagram)

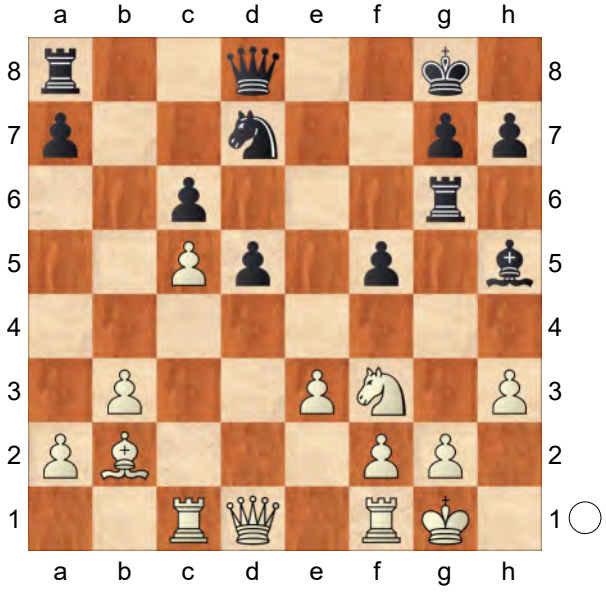


17.Nf3!+- Ng3 18.Nxh4 Nxf1 19.Nxg6 Nxe3 20.dxe3 hxg6 Simon,R (2245)-Ernst,H Bad Ragaz op 1995 1-0]

12...Nd7 13.0-0! f5 14.d4 Rf6 15.Nxc5 Bxc5 0.95/22

[15...Nxc5± 0.56/23 feels stronger. 16.dxc5 Rg6]

16.dxc5± Rg6



17.Kh1! Rb8 18.Qd4 Bxf3 19.gxf3 Qg5 1.30/24

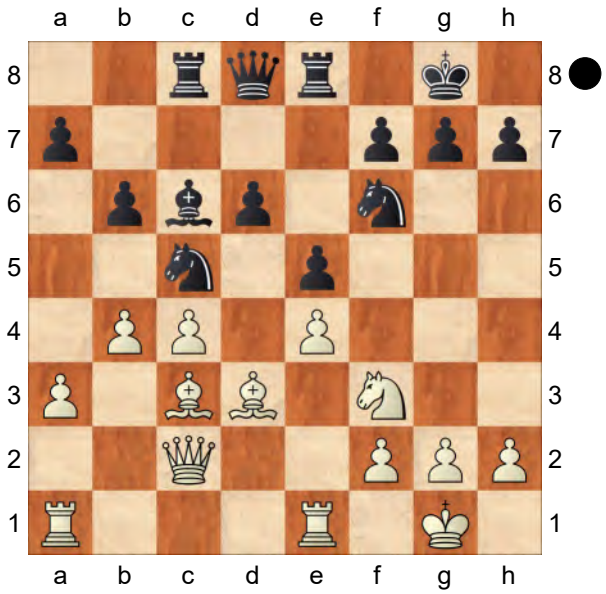
[19...Qf6!± 0.68/21]

20.Rg1 Qh6 21.Rxg6 hxg6 22.Kg2

Strongly threatening Qd4-a4. **22...Re8**
23.Qa4 0.94/21
[⌓23.b4 1.38/22]
23...Re6? 2.90/23 A mistake that costs the game.
[23...g5± 0.94/21]
24.Qxa7+- Qg5+ 25.Kf1 Re7 3.44/23
[⌓25...Qe7 2.42/20 26.f4 Nf8 27.Qxe7 Rxe7]
26.Qc7
[Less strong is 26.Qa8+ Kh7±]
26...Kh7 27.Qxc6
Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.35
1-0

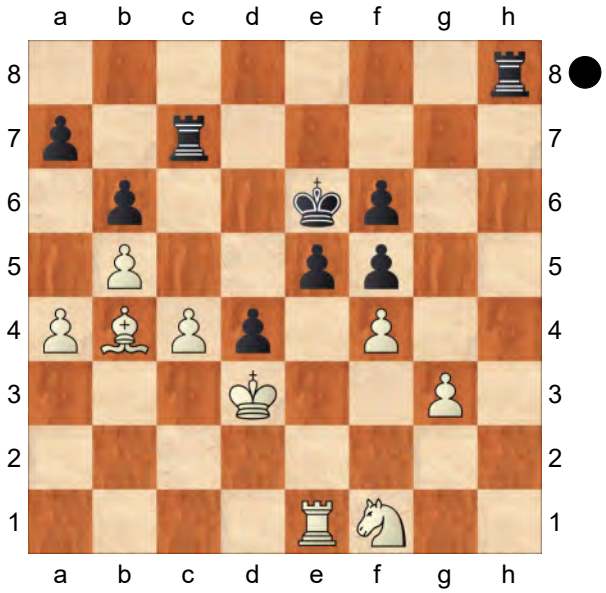
E21
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2733**
Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.16)
[Kitty Kat]

E21: Nimzo-Indian: 4 Nf3
1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 b6 3.Nc3
[3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.0-0 g6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.Re1 Ne4 8.Qc2 Nxc3 9.dxc3 d6 10.Bf4 Nd7 11.Rad1 Qc7 12.e4 Ne5 13.Nxe5 dxe5 14.Be3 0-0 15.b4 e6 16.bxc5 bxc5 17.Qa4 Rfc8 Sethuraman,S (2758)-Ernst,H (2704) World op 31st 2003]
3...Bb7
[3...c5 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bb7 6.f3 d6 7.e4 e6 8.Be3 Be7 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 a6 11.Qd2 Nbd7 12.Rfd1 Qc7 13.Rac1 Rac8 14.Bf1 Qb8 15.Kh1 Rfe8 16.b4 Bd8 17.Nb3 Bc7 18.Bf4 C 10/11-7.♗c4 d6 8.♗b3 00 9. h3 î 95/375 Istanbul 2005 ½-½]
4.d4 e6 5.Qc2N
[5.e3 Bb4 6.Bd3 0-0 7.0-0 d5 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Bd2 Nbd7 10.Qa4 Bd6 11.Ba6 Qc8 12.Bxb7 Qxb7 13.Rac1 c6 14.Ne2 Rac8 15.Ng3 Rfe8 16.Bb4 c5 17.dxc5 bxc5 18.Bc3 Bxg3 19.hxg3 Ne4 Ortiz Suarez,I-11. ♗e3 ♖e8 12. ♗d3 ♘b4 LIT-corr France 1987 ½-½]
5...Bb4 6.Bd2 0-0 7.e3 d6!
is recently more successful than 7...d5.
ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 7...d5.
8.Bd3 Nbd7 0.46/20
[8...c5= 0.04/21 deserves consideration.]
9.a3 Bxc3 10.Bxc3 Re8 The position is equal. **11.e4** -0.23/24
[⌓11.0-0 0.30/19]
11...e5 12.d5 c6 0.29/22
[12...Nc5 -0.14/22 was preferrable.]
13.0-0= Nc5 14.dxc6N -0.35/21
[Vorgänger: 14.Rfe1 Rc8 15.Bf1 b5! 16.Nd2 And now d5xc6 would win. bxc4 17.dxc6 Bxc6 18.Bxc4 Qc7 Fajman,P (2191)-Jurek,J (2248) CZE-chT1W 1920 2019 (1.4) ½-½]
[14.Rfe1± 0.34/22]
14...Bxc6∓ 15.Rfe1 Rc8 16.b4 -0.98/26
[16.Nd2= -0.24/20]



16...Nxd3 -0.33/19

[16...Ba4!∓ -0.98/26 17.Qe2 Nxd3 18.Qxd3 Qc7]
17.Qxd3 Bxe4 0.06/17
[17...b5∓ -0.46/23 18.Rad1 Nxe4 Decoy *(18...bxc4 19.Qxd6 Qb6 20.Nxe5∓)* 19.Rxe4 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Rxc4]
18.Rxe4= Nxe4 19.Qxe4 d5 20.Qf5
[20.Qxd5? loses. Qxd5 21.cxd5 Rxc3-+]
20...d4 0.84/22
[20...Qf6= 0.06/22 keeps the balance. 21.Qxf6 gxf6]
21.Bd2 -0.26/24
[21.Bb2± 0.84/22]
21...Qf6 1.27/26
[21...g6= -0.26/24 22.Qe4 f5]
22.Qxf6± gxf6 23.Rc1 Re6 24.b5 Prevents Re6-c6 **24...f5** 1.68/24
[24...a6± 0.91/21 was necessary.]
25.Bb4 f6 26.Kf1 1.08/22
[26.g3+- 1.72/23]
26...Kf7 27.Ke2 Nf3-h4 would now be deadly. **27...Ree8 28.a4** 0.13/21
[28.Nd2± 0.67/20]
28...Rc7 1.31/22
[28...a6= 0.13/21]
29.Nd2 Rec8 1.63/20
[29...h5± 1.04/20 30.a5 h4 31.axb6 axb6]
30.f3 0.49/24
[30.a5+- 1.63/20]
30...Ke6!± 31.Kd3 h5 1.15/22
[31...Rg7± 0.41/23]
32.g3 0.48/22
[32.a5± 1.15/22]
32...Rg8 1.42/22
[32...Rb7± 0.48/22]
33.Re1 0.00/26
[White should play 33.c5± 1.42/22]
33...h4!= 34.Nf1 -0.55/24
[34.gxh4= 0.00/26 Rh8 35.a5]
34...hxg3 35.hxg3 Rh8 0.00/22
[35...a6∓ -0.38/23]
36.f4 -1.37/24
[36.Nd2= 0.00/22 remains equal.]



36...Rh3 -0.10/25
[Better is 36...e4+!∓ -1.37/24 37.Kxd4 Rd8+ 38.Ke3 *(38.Kc3? Rd3+* D e f l e c t i o n *39.Kb2 Rxc4-+)* 38...Rxc4]
37.a5 Rd7 38.axb6 e4+ 39.Kc2! Black must now prevent b6xa7.
39...axb6 ...Rh3-h1 is the strong threat.
40.Ra1? -2.24/22
[40.Ba3= -0.27/26 and White stays safe.]
40...Rh1-+ Black has strong compensation. **41.Kd2?** -5.00/22
[41.Rd1 -2.10/21]
41...Rc7 42.Rc1 Rg1 43.Ke1 Rg2 44.c5 bxc5 45.b6 Rb7 46.Bxc5 Kd5 47.Kd1 -7.01/22
[⌓47.Bxd4 -4.73/19 Kxd4 48.Rc6]
47...e3 48.Ke1 Rb2 49.Bf8 R7xb6 50.Rd1 e2 51.Ne3+ Ke4 52.Rxd4+ Never resign too early!
Weighted Error Value: White=0.93/ Black=0.37
0-1

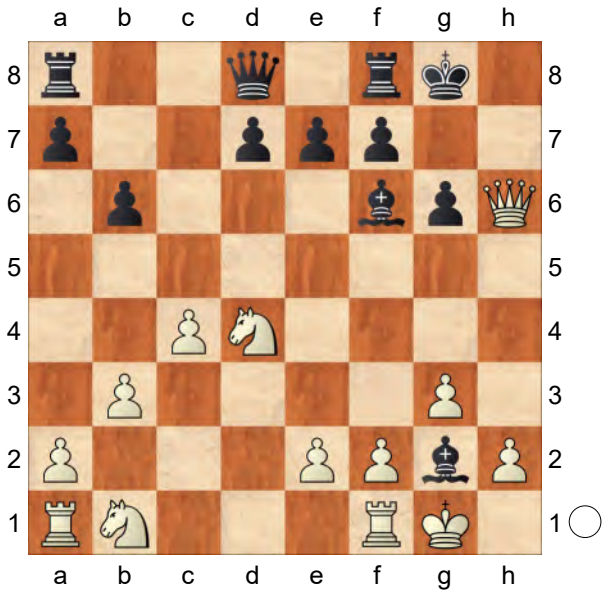
A30

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2733**
Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.18)
[Kitty Kat]

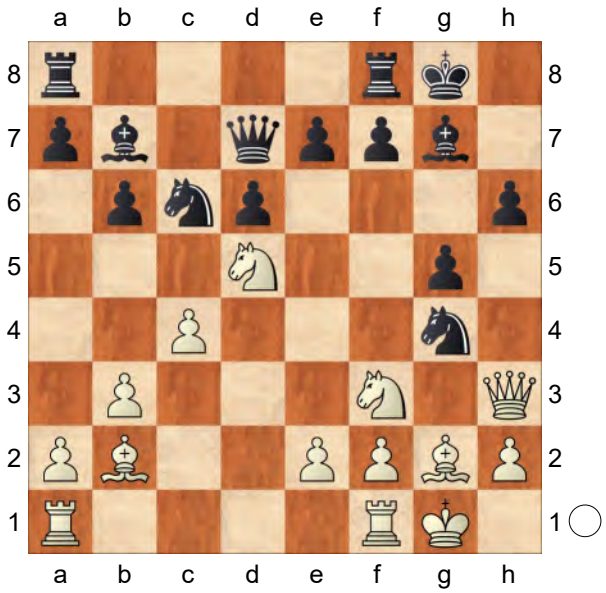
A30: Symmetrical English: Double Fianchetto and Hedgehog
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.b3 Bb7 4.Bb2 g6 5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 c5N
[6...0-0 7.0-0 e6 *(7...d6 8.d4 Nbd7 9.Qc2 Be4 10.Qd2 Bb7 11.Nc3 Ne4 12.Qc2 Nxc3 13.Bxc3 Nf6 14.d5 e5 15.dxe6 fxe6 16.b4* #16 1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.b3 Si-#16 1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.b3 Si *)* 8.Nc3 d5 9.cxd5 exd5 10.d4 Nbd7 11.e3 Re8 12.Rc1 a6 13.Qc2 Rc8 14.Rfd1 Bf8 15.Qb1 Bd6 16.Rc2 Qe7 17.Re2 Ne4 18.Nd2 Ndf6 19.f3 Nxd2 20.Rdxd2 c5 21.Na4 5.h3 00 6.♗e3 a6 7.a4_43121 (2400)-Linnemann,C (2537) EM/M/A089 ICCF Email 2000 (2) 0-1 Nd7 22.dxc5 bxc5 23.f4 Nf6 24.Nb6 Rcd8 25.Bxf6 Qxf6 26.Nxd5 Bc7 27.Qc2 Kg7 28.Qc4 Ba5 29.Rd1 Bb4 30.e4 Qc3 31.Qxa6 c4 32.Qxc4 Qf3 33.Qxb4 Qxe2 34.Qd4+ f6 35.a4 5.h3 00 6.Be3 a6 7.a4 (2400)-Linnemann,C (2537) EM/M/A089 ICCF Email 2000 (2) 0-1]
7.0-0 0-0 8.d4 seems to push 8.Nc3 aside. setzt sich inzwischen gegen 8.Sc3 durch. **8...cxd4 9.Qxd4 Nc6 10.Qh4 h6 11.g4N**
[Vorgänger: 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.Qxh6 And now Nf3-g5! would win. Nd4 0.89/23 *(12...Nb4± 0.40/22 13.Na3 e5)* 13.Nxd4± Bxg2

(Diagram)

14.Rd1! Bb7 15.Nc3 Rc8 16.Nd5



0.48/23 *(16.e4± 1.06/22)* 16...Bxd5± 17.cxd5 Rc5 Aronyak,G (2429)-Sengupta,D (2403) Kolkata Rapid op 2024 (11) ½-½]
11...g5 12.Qh3 The position is equal.
12...d6 13.Nc3 -1.12/22
[13.Bxf6= 0.21/23 exf6 14.Nc3]
13...Qd7∓ 14.Nd5 Nxg4



Discovered Attack **15.Bxg7 Kxg7**
16.Rad1 f5 17.Nd2 -1.81/20
[17.Qg3∓ -1.42/20]
17...Nce5-+ 18.f4 Ng6 -1.41/19
[18...e6-+ -1.80/21 White must now

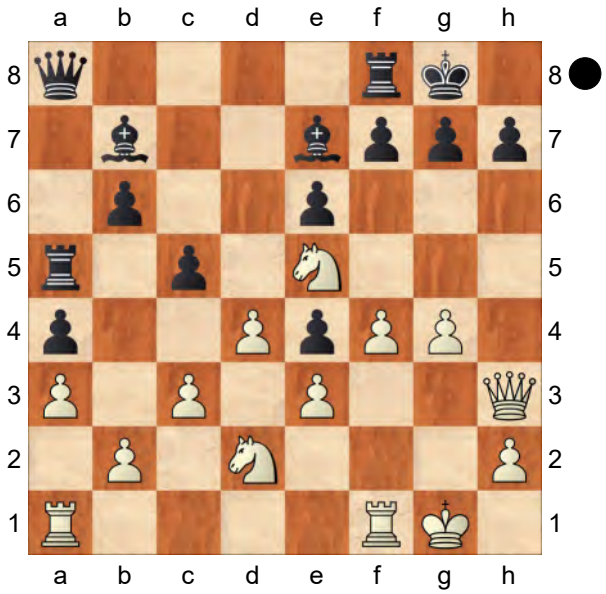
prevent ...Ne5-g6. 19.fxe5 exd5 20.cxd5 Nxe5 *(20...dxe5 21.Qf3∓)*]
19.Qc3+∓ Kg8 -0.71/23
[⌓19...e5 -1.47/21 Strongly threatening ...Bb7xd5. 20.fxg5 hxg5]
20.fxg5 -1.07/21
[White should try 20.h3 -0.71/23 Nf6 21.fxg5 hxg5 22.Qg3]
20...hxg5 21.Nf3 -2.67/21 Now White is beyond hope.
[21.h3∓ -1.23/19 is a better defense. N4e5 22.Nf3]
21...e6-+ 22.Nb4 -4.12/23
[22.h3 -2.40/20 exd5 23.hxg4]
22...Nf4 23.Qd2 Nxg2 24.Kxg2 f4 ...Qd7-h7 is the strong threat. **25.Kh1?** -5.35/21
[25.h3 -3.10/20 was called for. Ne3+ 26.Kf2]
25...Qh7 26.Kg1 Rad8 27.Nc2 e5 28.e4 fxe3 29.Qg2 -9.64/20
[29.Nxe3 -3.88/21 Nxe3 *(29...Bxf3? 30.Rxf3 Rxf3 31.Nxg4-+)* 30.Qxe3]
29...Bxf3 30.Rxf3 Rxf3 31.Qxg4 Rf4 32.Qg3 -#15/17
[32.Qe6+-+ -4.75/20 Qf7 33.Qxf7+ Kxf7 34.Nxe3]
32...Qxc2 Black mates. **33.Qxg5+ Kf7 34.Qh5+ Ke7 35.Qg5+ Rf6 36.Qg7+ Ke6 37.Qg4+ Qf5**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.74/ Black=0.40
0-1

D03
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2733**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.17)
[Kitty Kat]

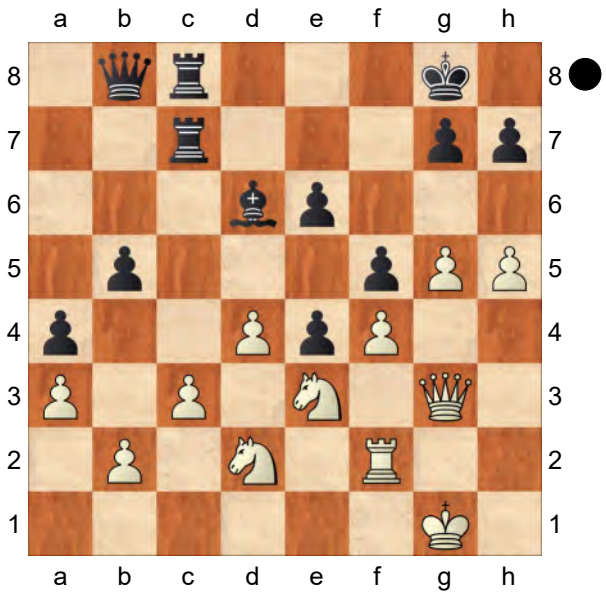
D03: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Bg5, including Torre Attack with early ...d5

Inf 103/(31) **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5**
[3.c4 c5 4.Nc3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.a3 Nxd4 7.Qxd4 b6 8.Nb5 Ba6 9.Qe5 d6 10.Qg3 Qd7 11.e3 Rc8 12.Be2 d5 13.0-0 dxc4 14.a4 Ne4 15.Qg4 f5 16.Qh3 Qf7 17.Rd1 Bb4 Gubajdullin,A (2504)-Oleksienko, M (2590) 103/(31) Moscow 2008]
[3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.0-0 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Bc5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.c4 0-0 9.Nc3 Na5 10.Nxa5 Qxa5 11.Bd2 Qc7 12.Rc1 a6 13.Bf4 e5 14.Bg5 Rb8 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nd5 Qd8 17.c5 Bg5 Gonzalez Martin,P (2315)-11. ♗g2 f6 12.0-0 ♘c5 (1961) Taastrup 97/(200) 2006 (3) 1-0]
3...d5N
[3...h6 4.Bxf6 Qxf6 5.e4 d6 6.Nc3 c6 7.Qd2 e5 8.0-0-0 Be7 9.Kb1 Nd7 10.h4 exd4 11.Nxd4 Ne5 12.f4 Ng4 13.h5 A 46/20-N,N 2000]
4.e3 Be7 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.Bd3 b6! is more profitable than 6...Nbd7 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 6...Sbd7.
7.Qe2 Bb7 8.Ne5 Nbd7 9.f4 c5 The position is equal. **10.c3 a5N** 0.74/20
[Vorgänger: 10...Nxe5 0.65/23 10...Nf6-e4 0.13 11.fxe5 Ne4 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Bxe4 dxe4 14.Qg4? -0.95/26 *(14.0-0± 0.62/18)* 14...cxd4∓ 15.exd4 e3? 0.89/24 *(15...f6∓* -1.25/22 stays on course. White must now prevent ...f6xe5. *16.0-0 f5)* 16.Nf3? -0.73/20 *(16.Ne4±* 0.89/24 is forced if you want to stay better.*)* 16...f5 -0.03/19 Lehtosaari,M (2199)-Avazkhonov,A (1538) Titled Tuesday intern op 26th Jul Early blitz 2022 (8) 0-1 *(16...Qd7∓* -0.73/20 *)*]
[10...Ne4= 0.23/20 11.Bxe7 Qxe7]
11.Bxf6 0.09/19

[11.h4± 0.74/20]
11...Nxf6= 12.Qf3 -0.20/20
[⌓12.a4 0.18/20]
12...a4 13.a3 Ra5 0.57/18
[Black should play 13...Ba6= 0.06/23]
14.g4± Qa8 1.57/19
[14...Nd7± 0.58/19]
15.0-0 0.11/20
[15.Rg1± 1.57/19]
15...Ne4= 16.Bxe4 -0.50/17
[White should try 16.Qh3= 0.17/20]
16...dxe4∓ 17.Qh3 -0.95/22
[17.Qg2∓ -0.58/20 feels stronger.]

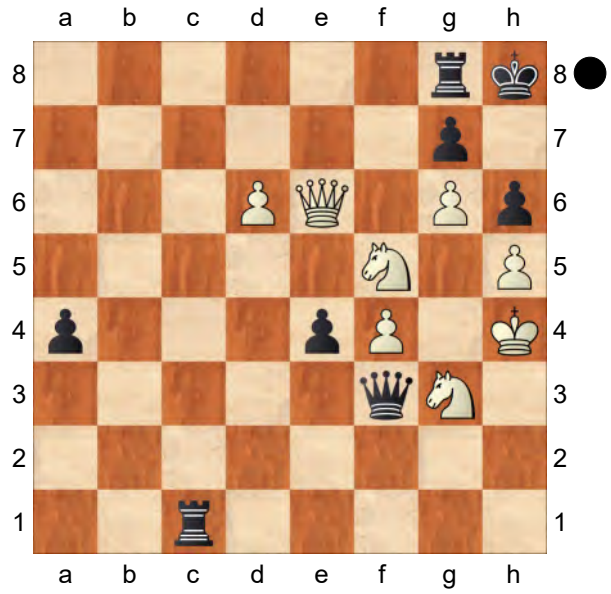


17...cxd4 -0.51/22
[17...Rb5!∓ -0.95/22 18.Rab1 cxd4 19.exd4 Qc8]
18.exd4 -1.58/21
[18.cxd4∓ -0.51/22 Rb5 19.g5]
18...Rb5∓ 19.Nec4 -1.86/19
[19.Rab1∓ -1.15/18]
19...f5-+ 20.g5 Bd5 -0.92/21
[20...Qc8-+ -1.76/22 ...Bb7-d5 is the strong threat. 21.Rf2 Qc6]
21.Rab1? -2.48/23
[21.Rf2∓ -0.92/21]
21...Qc8 22.Ne3 Hoping for c3-c4.
22...Ba2 23.Qg3 Bxb1 24.Rxb1 Qc7 25.Qf2 Bd6 26.Ng2 Rc8 27.h4 Ra5 28.h5 Qb8 29.Qg3 Ra7 30.Rf1 Rac7 31.Ne3 -3.43/20
[31.g6 -2.40/19 was necessary.]
31...b5 32.Rf2

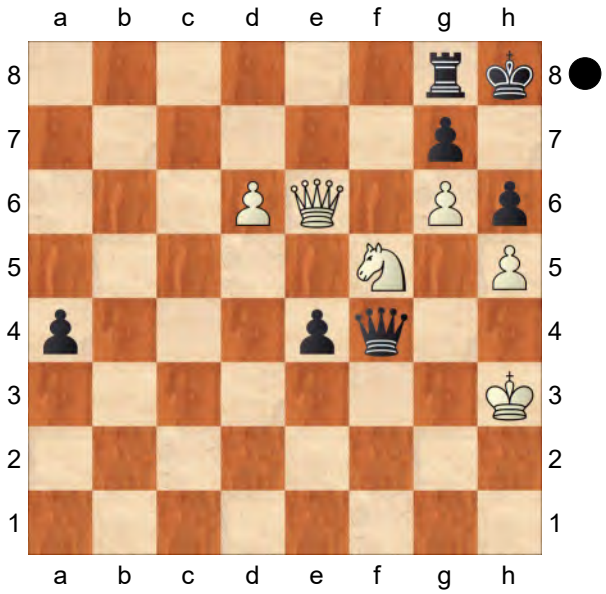


Bxa3! Deflection **33.bxa3 Rxc3 34.g6 h6**
[34...Rxa3 35.gxh7+ Kh8 *(35...Kxh7? 36.Qg6+ Kg8 37.h6±)* 36.Ndf1=]
35.Ndf1 b4 36.d5? -5.54/21
[36.axb4 -3.08/18 a3 *(36...Qxb4? 37.d5-+)* 37.Rd2]
36...b3 Threatens to win with ...b3-b2.
37.Qh4 b2 38.Rxb2 Qxb2 39.Qe7 Qxa3 40.d6 Kh8
[40...Rxe3 41.Qxe6+ Kh8 42.Qxc8#]
41.Qxe6 Rg8 42.Nxf5 Qc5+ 43.Kg2 Rc2+ 44.Kh3 Qf2 45.N1g3 Qg2+
[45...Qxf4 46.Nxg7 Rc5 *(46...Rxg7 47.Qe8+ Rg8 48.Qd7=)* 47.N7f5 Rxf5 48.Nxf5 Qf1+ 49.Kh2 Qe2+ 50.Kg3 Qf3+ *(50...Qxh5 51.Qf6+)* 51.Kh4 Qf4+ 52.Kh3 Qf1+ 53.Kh4 Qh1+ 54.Kg3 Qf3+ *(54...Qxh5 55.Qf6+)* 55.Kh4 Qf4+ 56.Kh3=]
46.Kh4 Qf3 47.Kh3 Wards off Rc2-h2+

47...Rc1
[47...Qxf4 48.Nxg7 Rc5 *(48...Rxg7 49.Qe8+ Rg8 50.Qe7=)* 49.N7f5 Rxf5 50.Nxf5 Qf1+ 51.Kh2 Qe2+ 52.Kg3 Qf3+ *(52...Qxh5 53.Qf6+)* 53.Kh4 Qf4+ 54.Kh3 Qf1+ 55.Kg3 Qf3+ 56.Kh4 Qf4+ 57.Kh3=]
48.Kh4



Rh1+! 49.Nxh1 Qxh1+ Endgame. KQR-KQN **50.Kg3 Qf3+**
[50...Qxh5 51.Nxh6 Qf3+ *(51...gxh6 52.Qf6+ Rg7 53.Qd8+ Rg8 54.Qf6+ Rg7 55.Qf8+ Rg8 56.Qf6+=; 51...Qxh6? 52.d7+-)* 52.Kh4 Qh1+ *(52...gxh6 53.Qf6+ Rg7 54.Qf8+ Rg8 55.Qxh6#; 52...Qxf4+ 53.Ng4=)* 53.Kg4 Qg2+ *(53...gxh6 54.Qe5+ Rg7 55.Qe8+ Rg8 56.Qe5+ Rg7 57.Qe8+ Rg8 58.Qe5+=; 53...Qxh6 54.d7 Rf8 55.Qf7)* 54.Kh4 Qh2+ *(54...gxh6 55.Qf6+ Rg7 56.Qf8+ Rg8 57.Qxh6#)* 55.Kg4 Qe2+ *(55...gxh6 56.Qe5+ Rg7 57.Qe8+ Rg8 58.Qe5+ Rg7 59.Qe8+ Rg8 60.Qe5+=; 55...Qxh6 56.d7 Rf8 57.Qf7)* 56.Kh4 Qe1+ *(56...gxh6 57.Qf6+ Rg7 58.Qf8+ Rg8 59.Qxh6#)* 57.Kh5 Qd1+ *(57...gxh6 58.Qf6+ Rg7 59.Qf8+ Rg8 60.Qxh6#; 57...Qh1+ 58.Kg4=)* 58.Kh4 Qh1+ *(58...gxh6 59.Qf6+ Rg7 60.Qf8+ Rg8 61.Qxh6#)* 59.Kg4 Qg2+ *(59...gxh6 60.Qe5+ Rg7 61.Qe8+ Rg8 62.Qe5+ Rg7 63.Qe8+ Rg8 64.Qe5+=; 59...Qxh6 60.d7 Rf8 61.Qf7)* 60.Kh4 Qh1+= *(60...gxh6 61.Qf6+ Rg7 62.Qf8+ Rg8 63.Qxh6#)*]
51.Kh2? -7.90/22
[51.Kh4= -0.19/19]
51...Qxf4+ 52.Kh3 Qf3+ 53.Kh4 Qf4+ 54.Kh3



e3? 0.00/43 **55.d7!=** White threatens Qe6xg8+! and mate. **55...Qf1+**
[55...Rf8!? 56.Qf7□ Qf1+ *(56...Rxf7 57.d8Q+)* 57.Kh2 Qf2+ *(57...Rxf7 58.d8Q+)* 58.Kh3 Qf3+ *(58...Rxf7 59.d8Q+)* 59.Kh4 Qf2+ *(59...Rxf7 60.d8Q+)* 60.Kh3 Qf3+ *(60...Rxf7 61.d8Q+)* 61.Kh4 Qe4+ *(61...Rxf7 62.d8Q+)* 62.Kg3 Qe5+ *(62...Rxf7 63.d8Q+)* 63.Kh3 Rb8= *(63...Rxf7 64.d8Q+)*]
56.Kh4 Intending Qe6xg8+! and mate.
56...Qf2+ 57.Kg4? -6.92/19
[57.Kh3= 0.00/21 Qf1+ 58.Kh4 Qf2+

59.Kh3 Qf1+]
57...Qe2+? 0.00/23
[Better is 57...Rf8-+ -6.92/19 aiming for ...e3-e2. 58.Qd5 Qd2]
58.Kg3! White wants to mate with Qe6xg8+! **58...Qe1+**
[58...Qxh5 59.Qxg8+ Kxg8 60.d8Q#]
59.Kg4? -6.14/24
[59.Kh3= 0.00/23 Qf1+ 60.Kh2 Qf4+ 61.Kh3 Qf1+]
59...Qd1+-+ 60.Kg3 e2
[60...Qxh5 61.Qxg8+ Kxg8 62.d8Q#]
61.Nxh6 e1Q+
[And not 61...e1B+ 62.Kg2 Qd2+ 63.Kh1 gxh6 64.Qf6+ Rg7 65.d8Q+ *(65.d8B?* is the wrong capture. *Qd5+ 66.Kg1 Bb4-+; 65.Qf8+ Rg8 66.Qf6+ Rg7 67.d8Q+ Qxd8 68.Qxd8+ Rg8 69.Qf6+ Rg7 70.Qf8+ Rg8 71.Qxh6#)* 65...Qxd8 66.Qxd8+ Rg8 67.Qf6+ Rg7 68.Qf8+ Rg8 69.Qxh6#]
62.Qxe1 Qxe1+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.70/ Black=0.38
0-1

D53
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2733**
Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.6)
[Kitty Kat]

D53: Queen's Gambit Declined: 4 Bg5 Be7: Early deviations
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Bg5N
[3.e3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 *(4.Nd2 0-0 5.a3 Bxd2+ 6.Qxd2 b6 7.Bd3 Bb7 8.f3 c5 9.Ne2 cxd4 10.Nxd4 d5 11.cxd5 Nxd5* E 00/01 Chess Informant ECO E4 2008 *)* 4...Qe7 *(4...a5 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Ne2 Bxd2+ 7.Nxd2 d6 8.0-0 e5 9.d5 Nb4 10.Bb1 0-0 11.Ng3 c6 12.a3 Na6 13.dxc6 bxc6* E 00/01 Chess Informant ECO E4 2008 *)* 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Ne2 Bxd2+ 7.Nxd2 e5 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 d5 10.cxd5 Nb4 11.Bb1 Nbxd5 12.e4 Nb6 E 00/01 Chess Informant ECO E4 2008]
[3.Nf3 c5 4.Nc3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.g3 Qb6 7.Nb3 Ne5 8.e4 Bb4 9.Qe2 d6 10.f4 Nc6 11.Be3 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Qc7 13.Bg2 0-0 14.c5 dxc5 15.Bxc5 Rd8 16.e5 Na5 17.Bb4 Nxb3 Smirnov,P (2631)-Tomashevsky, E (2641) 102/(37) Russia 2007]
[3.a3 b6 4.Nc3 Bb7 5.f3 d5 6.e3 Be7 7.Bd3 0-0 8.Nge2 c5 9.0-0 Nc6 10.dxc5 dxc4 11.Bxc4 Ne5 12.Ba2 Bxc5 13.b4 Be7 14.Nd4 Nd5 15.Nce2 Rc8 16.Qb3 Nc4 17.e4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 (1766)-Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (1914) 2002 Brantford (2) 1-0]
3...h6 4.Bh4 Be7 5.Nc3 d5 6.e3 Nbd7 7.cxd5
[7.Nf3 0-0 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Bg3 -0.18/24 *(9.Bxe7* 0.24/24 was preferrable. *Nxe7 10.Qc2)* 9...c5= 10.Bd3 cxd4 11.exd4 N7f6 12.0-0 b6 13.Ne5 Bb7 14.Re1 Rc8 15.Rc1 Nxc3 16.bxc3 Erigaisi,A (2778)-Duda,J (2733) Chess.com SpeedChess blitz 2024 (1.8) 1-0]
7...Nxd5 was the old line (7...exd5). war die alte Variante (7...exd5). **8.Bg3** -0.22/21
[⌓8.Bxe7 0.16/23 Qxe7 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.Nf3]
8...c5=
[Vorgänger: 8...Nxc3 9.bxc3 c5 10.Nf3 0-0 11.Bd3 Nf6 12.0-0 b6

13.e4 Bb7 14.Qe2 Rc8 Batsiashvili,N (2528)-Arabidze,M (2369) EU-ch ACP (Women) Blitz 2018 (12) ½-½]

9.Nf3 cxd4 10.exd4 Qa5 11.Rc1 b6 12.Qb3 -0.43/22

[12.Nd2= 0.00/22 might be stronger.]

12...Nxc3 13.bxc3 Ba6 Prevents Bf1-b5. **14.Bxa6 Qxa6 15.c4 Qa5+ 16.Ke2 0-0 17.Rhd1 Rfd8 18.Kf1 Rac8 19.h3 Nf6 20.Be5 Nd7 21.Bf4 Qf5 22.Be3 Rc7 23.d5 Bf6 24.d6 Rcc8 25.Qa4** -0.66/20

[25.Qb5= -0.21/21]

25...Qe4 0.00/19

[25...Nc5∓ -0.66/20 26.Qxa7 Nd3]

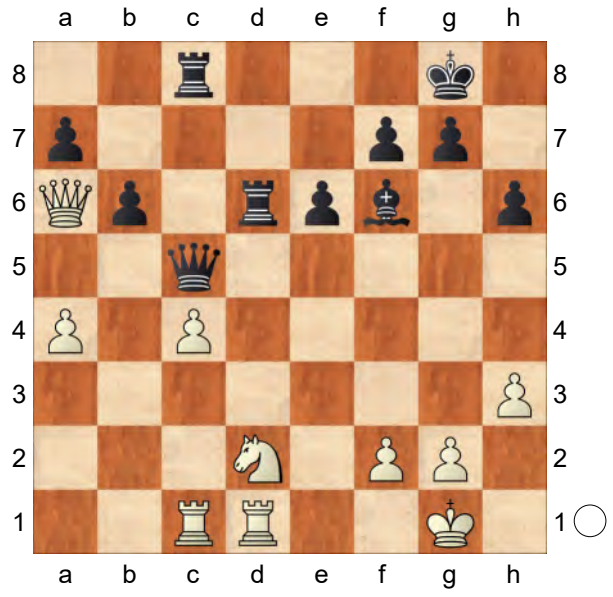
26.Kg1 -0.63/24

[26.Qxa7= 0.00/19 Rxc4 27.Kg1]

26...Qb7∓ 27.Qb5 Nc5 28.a4 Qc6 29.Bxc5 Qxc5 30.Qa6 Rd7

[30...Rxd6? 31.Rxd6 *(31.Qxa7 Qxc4 32.h4 Qxc1-+)* 31...Rc7 32.Rcd1+-]

31.Nd2 Rxd6



...Rc8-d8 is the strong threat. **32.Ne4 Rxd1+ 33.Rxd1 Qc7**

[33...Qxc4? is the wrong capture. 34.Nxf6+ gxf6 35.Rd8+ *(35.Qxa7 h5∓)* 35...Rxd8 36.Qxc4+-]

34.Nxf6+ gxf6∓ Endgame. KQR-KQR **35.Rd4 f5** -0.63/25

[35...Kg7∓ -1.04/21 36.Rg4+ Kf8]

36.Qb5∓ Rd8 Against Rd4-d7 **37.Rxd8+ Qxd8** KQ-KQ **38.g3** -1.22/34

[White should play 38.Qb3∓ -0.51/23]

38...Qd1+ 39.Kg2 Qd4 -0.75/29

[⌓39...Qd6 -1.19/28 40.a5 f4 41.gxf4 Qxf4 42.axb6 axb6]

40.a5 -1.19/27

[Better is 40.Qa6 -0.75/29]

40...Kf8 -0.29/23

[40...f4∓ -1.19/27 41.gxf4 Qxf4 42.axb6 axb6]

41.axb6 -1.19/25

[41.a6= -0.29/23 keeps the balance.]

41...axb6∓

[Don't take 41...Qxb6 42.Qe5∓]

42.Qa6 Kg7 43.h4? -3.37/25

[43.Qa4∓ -1.12/31 is a better defense.]

43...Qe4+? -0.64/25

[43...e5-+ -3.37/25 And now ...f5-f4 would win. 44.Qa2 Qe4+ 45.Kh2 f4]

44.Kg1? -2.64/25

[44.Kh2∓ -0.64/25]

44...Qd4-+ 45.Kg2 f4 46.gxf4? -4.48/22

[46.Qa2 -1.96/22]

46...Qxf4 47.Qxb6 Qg4+

[Not 47...Qxh4 48.c5=]

[47...Qxc4? 48.Kg3-+]

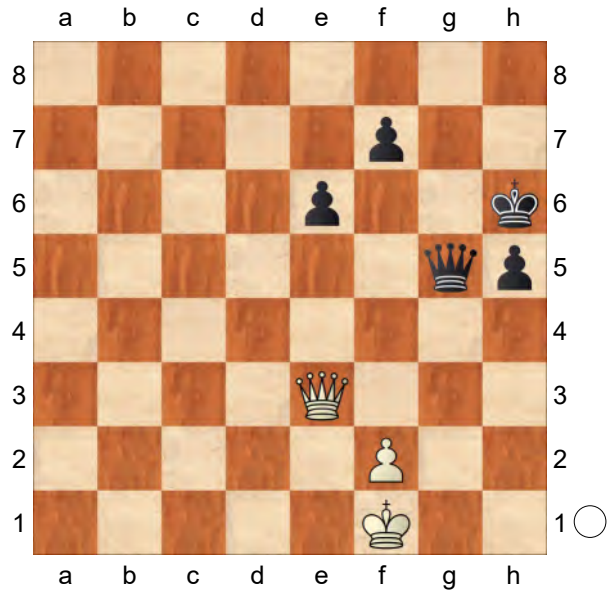
48.Kh2 Qxh4+ 49.Kg2 Qg4+

[49...Qxc4? 50.Qb2+ Kg6 51.Qb8-+]

50.Kh2 Qxc4 51.Qb2+ Kg6 52.Qb1+ Kg5 53.Qb7 Qf4+ 54.Kg1 h5 55.Qe7+ Kg6 56.Qe8 Qg5+ 57.Kf1 Qc1+ 58.Kg2 Qg5+ 59.Kf1 Qf6 60.Qg8+ Qg7 61.Qd8 Kf5 62.Qd3+ Kg5 63.Qe3+? -6.34/25

[63.Qd2+ -3.43/19 Kg6 64.Qd3+ Kh6 65.Qd8]

63...Kg6 64.Qd3+ Kh6 65.Qe3+ Qg5



Hoping for ...Qg5xe3. **66.Qc3 Kh7** Prevents Qc3-h8+ **67.Qd3+ Qf5 68.Qd4 e5 69.Qh4 Qd3+ 70.Kg2 Qg6+ 71.Kf1 Qd3+ 72.Kg2 Qf5** aiming for ...Qf5-g4+. **73.Kf1 Kg6 74.Qg3+ Qg5** Strongly threatening ... Qg5xg3. **75.Qd3+ Kg7 76.Qe4 Qc1+ 77.Kg2 Qf4 78.Qc6 Qg4+ 79.Kf1 h4 80.Qd6 Qe4 81.Qd8 Qh1+ 82.Ke2 Qe4+ 83.Kf1 Qg4 84.Qe7 Qf4 85.Qd7 Kg6 86.Qc8 Kg5** White must now prevent ...Qf4-f3. **87.Qg8+ Kf6 88.Qd8+ Kg7** ...h4-h3 would now be deadly. **89.Qc8 Qf3** Threatens to win with ...h4-h3. **90.Qd8 Qh1+ 91.Ke2 Qe4+ 92.Kf1**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.25 (precise) . An unexpected result.

½-½

B51

□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof 2733**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2778**

Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.3)

[Kitty Kat]

B51: Sicilian: Moscow Variation (3 Bb5+) without 3...Bd7

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 d6N

[3...e6 4.d4 Nge7 5.c3 cxd4 6.cxd4 d5 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.0-0 Bd7 9.Nc3 Be7 10.Re1 0-0 11.a3 Rc8 12.Bd3 Re8 13.Be4 Nxc3 14.bxc3 Bf6 15.Qd3 g6 16.Bh6 Qc7 17.c4 Red8 18.Rad1 Hanke,L (2709)-10.♗c2 c5 11.♘bd2 (2728) NAICCC VIII 9600 1996 (2) 1-0]

[3...g6 4.Bxc6 bxc6 5.d4 cxd4 6.Qxd4 Nf6 7.e5 Nd5 8.c4 Nc7 9.0-0 Bg7 10.Qh4 Ne6 11.Nc3 *(11.Bh6 0-0 12.Nc3 f6 13.Bxg7 Kxg7 14.Rad1 fxe5 15.Nxe5 Qe8 16.Rfe1 Rf5 17.Nf3* Chapter-Games Chapter 7 Game 1*)* 11...h6 12.Re1 Rb8 13.b3 a5 14.Bd2 Ba6 15.Rad1 Qc7 16.Bc1 Bc8 17.Ba3 g5 18.Qg3 8.0-0 ♘bc6 9.♗b5 a6 61385 (2441)-Cullip,S (2230) EU-chT (Men) 15th 2005 (12) 1-0]

4.0-0 Bd7 5.Re1 Nf6 6.c3 a6 7.Bf1 Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 e6 now scores much better than the old 9...g6. punktet besser als das ältere 9...g6.

10.d3 Be7 11.Qg3 Rg8 White is slightly better. **12.f4N**

[Vorgänger: 12.Qe3 g5 13.d4 -0.07/23 *(13.g3!± 0.55/22)* 13...g4= 14.dxc5 -0.37/22 *(14.d5!= 0.00/21 exd5 15.exd5 Nxd5 16.Qe2)* 14...d5 0.14/20 *(14...Ne5∓* -0.37/22 *)* 15.Nd2!= d4 16.cxd4 Nxd4 17.Qc3 -0.38/19 Against Nd4-c2 *(17.e5!= 0.21/22 Bxc5 18.Qc3)* 17...gxh3∓

...Nf6-g4 would now be deadly. 18.g3 Gadimbayli,A (2399)-Adhiban,B (2538) Wch Rapid Almaty 2022 (9) 0-1]

12...g5 **13.fxg5** next Qg3-h4 is good for White. **13...h6!** **14.Qh4** **Nh7** **15.Qxh6** **Nxg5** **16.Qh5** Prevents Ng5-f3+ **16...Ne5** ...Ng5-f3+ is the strong threat. **17.Kh1** -0.60/21

[Better is 17.Re3!± 0.44/21]

17...Qb6 0.87/19

[17...Nxh3!∓ -0.60/21 stays ahead. 18.gxh3 *(18.Qxh3? Bh4-+)* 18...Bh4]

18.Na3

[18.h4? 0-0-0 19.Qd1 *(19.hxg5? Rh8-+* Pin *)* 19...Nh7-+]

18...0-0-0 **19.Qd1** **Kb8** **20.d4** **cxd4** **21.cxd4** aiming for Bc1xg5! **21...Nc6** **22.Be3** Strongly threatening d4-d5. **22...d5**

[22...Qxb2? 23.Nc4 Qb4 24.a3+- *(24.Rb1 Nxe4 25.Rxb4 Nxb4+-)*]

23.exd5 **exd5** **24.Qb3⇄** White is not keeping still **24...Qc7** White must now prevent ...Ng5-e4.

[24...Qxb3 simplifies 25.axb3 Ne4 26.Bf4+ Bd6]

25.Rac1

[25.Bxa6 Na5 26.Qc2 *(26.Qb5? Ne4-+)* 26...bxa6 27.Qxc7+ Kxc7 28.Bxg5 Bxg5-+]

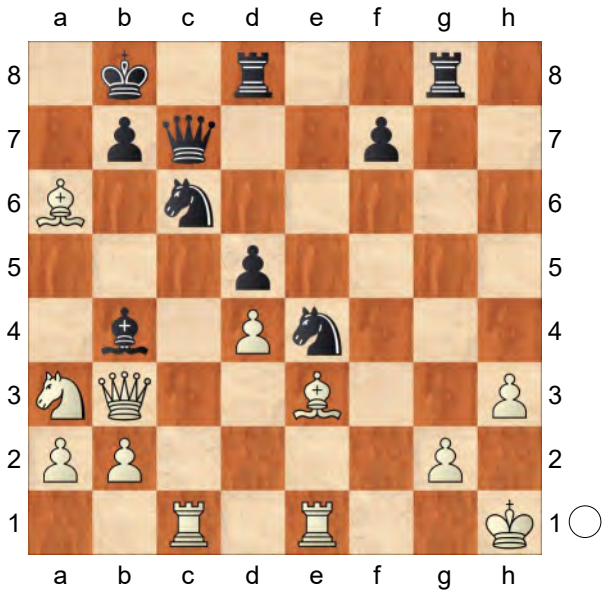
25...Ne4 **26.Bxa6** **Bb4?** 2.36/23

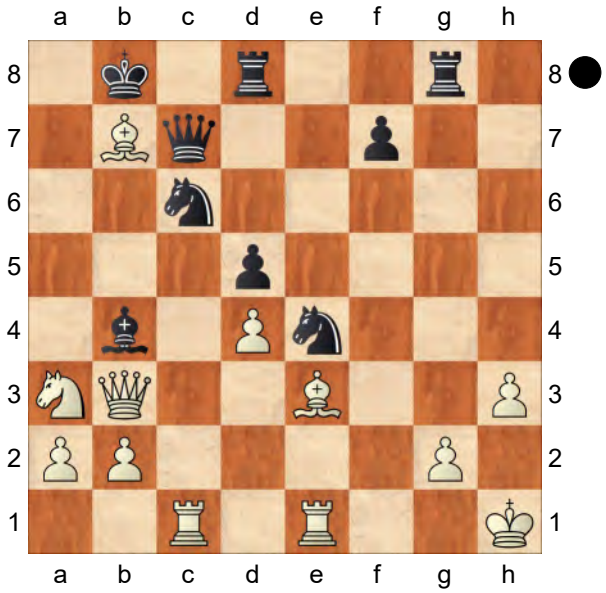
[26...Rg6!= 0.00/22 and Black has nothing to worry.]

(Diagram)

27.Bxb7?? -6.07/19

(Diagram)





Rxg2!!-+ Decoy **28.Bg1**

(Diagram)

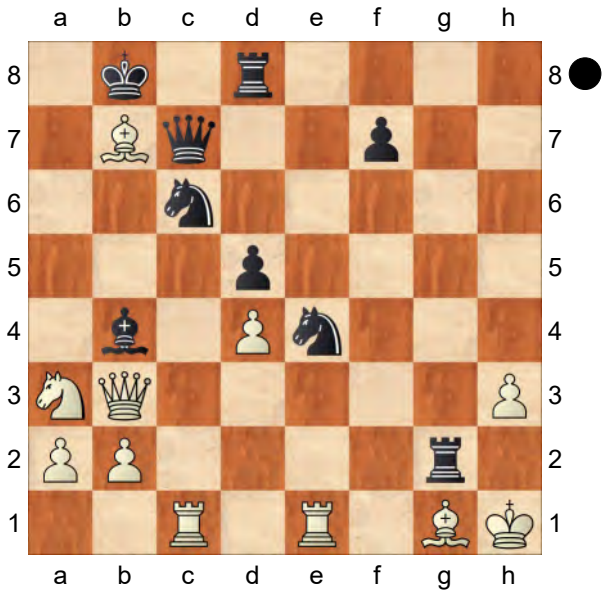
Wards off Qc7-h2+ **28...Rdg8?** 0.11/24

29.Rxe4=

[29.Bxc6? Nf2+ 30.Bxf2 Rh2#]

29...R8g3? 6.36/20 This move loses the game for Black.

[29...Kxb7= 0.14/20 30.Re5 *(30.Qxd5 Rxg1+* Decoy *31.Rxg1 Rxg1+* Remove Defender *32.Kxg1 Qg3+ 33.Kh1 Qxh3+ 34.Kg1 Qg3+*



35.Kh1 Qh3+ 36.Kg1 Qg3+ 37.Kh1 Qf3+ 38.Kg1 Qg3+=) 30...f6]

30.Bxc6+-

[30.Nb5? Qd7 31.Rh4 *(31.Bxc6? Qxh3+; 31.Bc8? Qxc8 32.Rg4 Rxb3-+)* 31...Rxg1+ *(31...Kxb7? 32.Be3-+; 31...Rxb3? 32.Bxc6 Qd8 33.Rh7-+)* 32.Rxg1 Rxb3 33.Bxc6 Rxh3+ *(33...Qxc6? 34.axb3 Qxb5 35.Rh6-+)* 34.Kg2 Qxc6-+]

30...Rxb3 31.Re8+

[31.Kxg2? is a self mate. Qg3+ *(31...Rxb2+? 32.Rc2-+)* 32.Kf1 Qxh3+ 33.Kf2 Qf3#]

31...Ka7 32.Nb5+

[32.Kxg2? gets mated. Qg3+ *(32...Rxb2+ 33.Kf3∓)* 33.Kf1 Qxh3+ 34.Kf2 Qf3#]

[Inferior is 32.axb3 Rxg1+ 33.Rxg1 Qxc6=]

32...Kb6 33.Nxc7 Rgxb2 34.Nxd5+

Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.96

1-0

A21

□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2733**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**

Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.7)

[Kitty Kat]

A21: English Opening: 1...e5 2 Nc3

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 d6 3.Nf3 f5 4.d4 e4 5.Ng5 Be7 6.h4 c6N

[6...Nf6 7.e3 0-0 8.Be2 c6 9.d5 Na6 10.b3 Nc7 11.Bb2 c5 A 21/37 2000]

7.Bf4!? A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.

7...Nf6 8.e3 Na6 The position is equal.

9.Be2 Nc7 10.Bg3 0-0N

[Vorgänger: 10...a6 11.Qb3 0-0 12.c5+ d5 1.28/22 *(12...Kh8!±* 0.41/21 *)* 13.Na4± h6 14.Nh3 Be6? 3.27/20 *(14...Nd7±* 1.32/20 was necessary.*)* 15.Nb6? 0.37/20 *(15.Qxb7+-* 3.27/20 *Nfe8 16.Nb6)* 15...Rb8 1.27/20 *(15...Ra7!±* 0.37/20 *)* 16.Nf4 Bf7 Lagarde,M (2648)-Alekseenko,K (2699) Biel blitz 54th 2021 (3) 1-0]

11.Qb3 Rb8 12.h5 Ng4 0.78/21

[12...h6= 0.25/24 remains equal. 13.Nh3 Be6]

13.Nh3± White is more active. **13...Ne6** 1.68/23

[13...Nf6± 0.72/19 was called for.]

(Diagram)

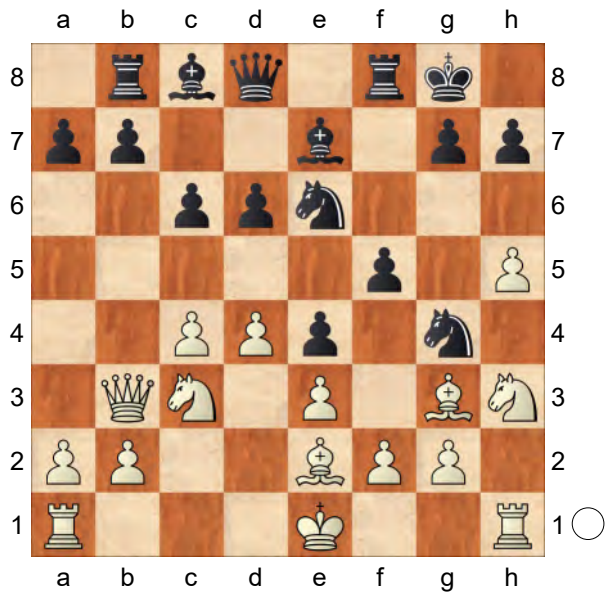
14.Bxg4 0.87/20

[14.c5!+- 1.68/23]

14...fxg4 15.Nf4 Threatens to win with c4-c5. **15...Nxf4 16.Bxf4 Bf5 17.c5+ Kh8** 1.67/20

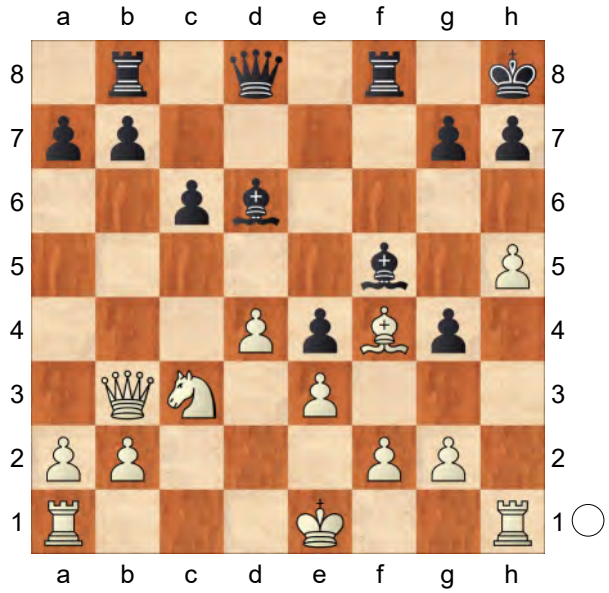
[17...Rf7± 0.89/19]

18.cxd6 0.95/19



[Better is 18.d5+- 1.67/20]

18...Bxd6



19.Ne2 Qa5+ 1.06/22 Black is now going downhill.

[19...h6!± 0.67/18]

20.Kf1 Bxf4 21.Nxf4 g3 1.73/20 **22.fxg3+- c5 23.dxc5 Qxc5 24.Kf2 Rbc8** 2.37/24

[24...Rf6± 1.42/20 25.Rhc1 Qe5]

25.Rac1!

[25.Qxb7 Rb8 26.Qd5 *(26.Rhc1? Qxc1 27.Rxc1 Rxb7-+)* 26...Rxb2+ 27.Kg1 Qxd5 *(27...Qxe3+ 28.Kh2=)* 28.Nxd5 Be6∓]

25...Qxc1 3.44/23

[25...Qa5 2.28/21 is a better defense. 26.Rcf1 *(26.Qxb7? Qd2+ 27.Kg1 Rxc1+-+)* 26...h6]

26.Rxc1 Rxc1 27.Qxb7 Bg4 28.h6!

[28.Qxe4 Rfc8 29.Ne2 Rf8+ 30.Nf4 Rfc8=]

[28.Qxa7 h6 *(28...Rfc8 29.Ne2-+)* 29.a4 Rfc8-+]

28...gxh6 29.Qxe4

[Not 29.Qxa7 Rd8 30.Qa5 Rcd1 31.Qc3+ Kg8 32.Qc4+ Kf8 33.Qb4+ *(33.Qxe4? leads to mate. R8d2+)* 33...Kg7 34.Qc3+ *(34.Qxe4? is a self mate. R8d2+)* 34...Kg8 35.Qb3+ Kg7 36.Qc3+ Kg8=]

29...Rfc8 Strongly threatening ...Rc8-c2+. **30.Qe5+ Kg8** (-> ...Rc8-c2+) **31.e4 R8c2+ 32.Ke3** White is clearly winning. **32...Re1+ 33.Kd3 Rc8 34.Nd5 Rd1+ 35.Ke3 Re1+ 36.Kf4**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.35

1-0

D35

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Dubov,Daniil** **2701**

FIDE World Bl Team Final blitz (3.1)
[Kitty Kat]

D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation

1.d4 Krasenkow,Michal **1...Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nc3 c6 6.Bf4 Bf5**

[6...Bd6 7.Bxd6 Qxd6 8.e3 0-0 9.Bd3 Bg4 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Nbd7 12.g4 Rfe8 13.g5 Ne4 14.Nxe4 dxe4 15.Bxe4 Qb4+ 16.Kf1 Qb5+ 17.Kg2 Qxg5+ 18.Kh2 Ne5

19.Qg3 Qxg3+ 20.Kxg3 Nc4 21.Bc2 Persse,D (2728)-4.a3Ba6/ 10. Be2 (2582) cor 1980 (3) 1-0]

7.e3 Nbd7 8.h3! is currently scoring better than 8.Bd3.wohl besser als 8.Ld3.

8...Be7N

[8...Nb6 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Bd6 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bh4 g5 13.Bg3 Bxg3 14.fxg3 Qd6 15.Kf2 0-0-0 16.Ne5 Qe7 17.Rhb1 Nfd7 18.Qf5 Qf6 19.Qxf6 Nxf6 20.Nxf7 Ne4+ 21.Kg1 Nxg3 22.Nxh8 Rxh8 23.Kf2 15.h4 h6 16.g4 ♕c7 17.g5_15 (1366)-9.00 00 10.e3 ♘e4_66314 (1285) Indore op 1st 2023 (3) 1-0]

9.g4 Bg6 10.Nh4 Qb6 11.Qe2 Nf8N

[Vorgänger: 11...Qa5 12.Bg2 Ne4 ...Ne4xc3! is the strong threat. 13.Nxg6 Nxc3 14.Qd2 hxg6 15.bxc3 Nb6 16.0-0 Nc4 17.Qe2 0-0 Morozevich,A (2694)-Grischuk,A (2746) RUS-ch 64th Moscow 2011 (2) 1-0]

12.Nf5 Bxf5 13.gxf5 g6 1.07/22

[Black should try 13...N8d7± 0.51/20]

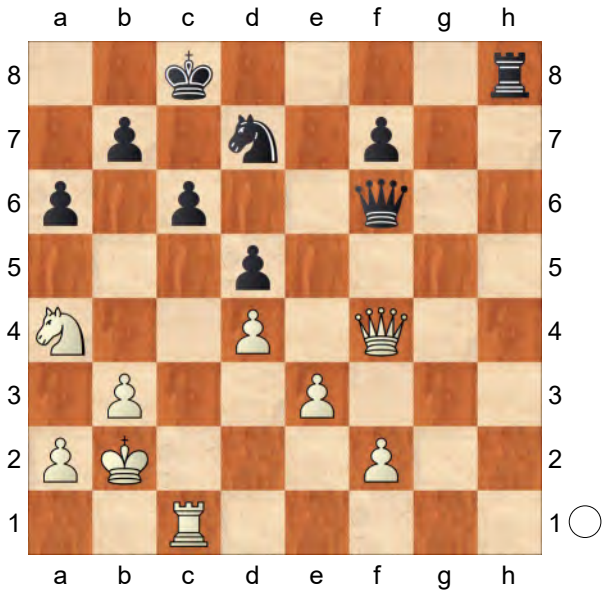
14.h4 Qd8 15.0-0-0 And now Bf1-h3 would win. **15...Bd6 16.Qf3 Bxf4 17.Qxf4 N8d7 18.Be2** 0.30/19 White is more active.

[18.Bh3± 0.80/18]

18...Qb8= 19.Qg5 Qd6 The position is equal. **20.fxg6 hxg6 21.h5 gxh5 22.Bxh5 Rxh5 23.Rxh5 Nxh5 24.Qxh5 0-0-0 25.Rg1 Qf6 26.Qh2 Nb6 27.b3 Rh8 28.Qg3 Nd7 29.Kb2 Qe6 30.Rc1 a6** Repels Nc3-b5 **31.Na4 Qg6 32.Qf4 Qf6**

(Diagram)

...Qf6xf4 would now be deadly. **33.Qg3 Qg6 34.Qf4 Qf6** Strongly threatening ... Qf6xf4. **35.Qg3**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)

½-½

D86

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**

■ **Dubov,Daniil** **2701**

FIDE World Rapid Team (9.7) 04.08.2024

[Kitty Kat]

D86: Exchange Grünfeld: Classical Line (7 Bc4)

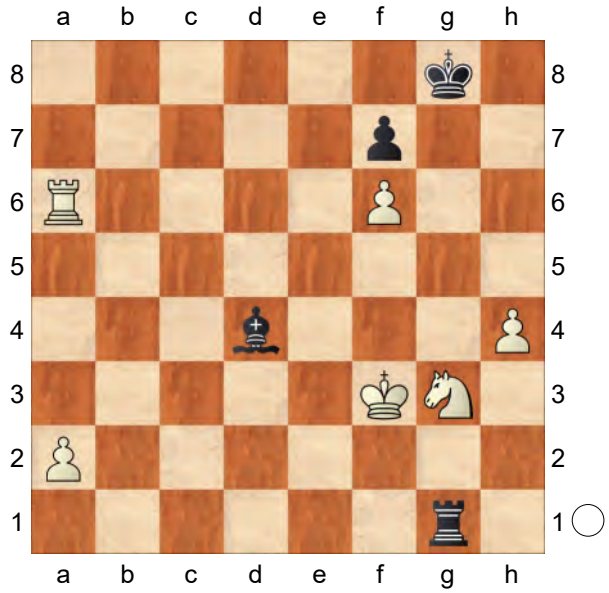
Piket,Je: 'Inf 71/493' **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 c5 8.Ne2 Nc6 9.Be3 cxd4 10.cxd4 Qa5+** 10...b5 is becoming the main line.10...b5 wird zur Hauptvariante. **11.Bd2 Qd8 12.Bc3 Bg4**

[12...0-0 13.Rc1 Bd7 14.0-0 Rc8 15.Qb3 Qb6 16.Qxb6 axb6 17.Rfd1 Rfd8 18.Rb1 Be8 19.d5 Na5 20.Bxg7 Nxc4 21.Bd4 b5 22.f3 e5 23.dxe6 fxe6 24.Bc3 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Ra8 Piket,J (2580)-Polgar,J (2670) 71/493 Wijk aan Zee 1998]

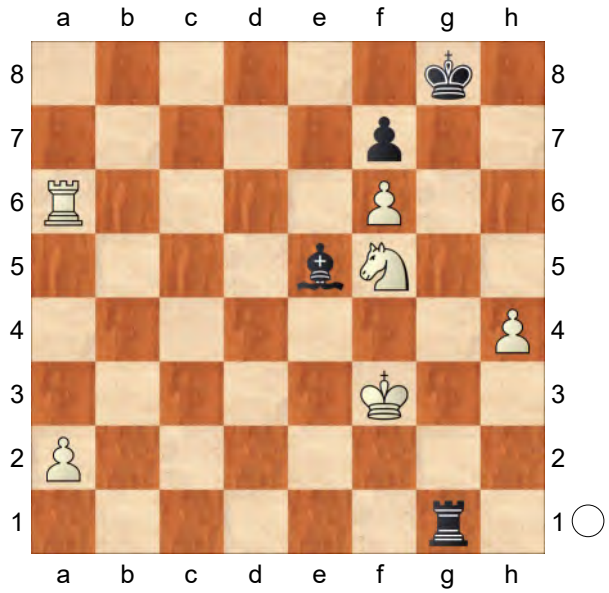
13.f3 Bd7 14.Qd2 White is slightly

better. **14...Rc8N**
[14...0-0
A) 15.h4 h5 *(15...Qc7 16.Rc1 Rfd8 17.Bb3 Qb6 18.h5* Lukacs,P (2465)-Van Mil,J (2370) Lillafuehred 48/(620) 1989*)* 16.Rb1 Qc7 17.Kf2 a6 18.Bb3 a5 19.Ba4 Granfeld Systems Without-9...cxd4 10.cxd4 Qa5+ 11.Bd2 Lifetime Repertoires: Swiercz's 1. d4 - 2023;
B) 15.Rc1 Rc8 16.Bb3 e5 17.d5 Nd4 18.Nxd4 exd4 19.Bb4 Rxc1+ 20.Qxc1 Re8 D 86/02 2003]
15.0-0 0-0 16.Rab1 b6N 0.66/22
[Vorgänger: 16...Qc7 0.72/19 16...Nc6xd4 0.34 17.Rfc1 Ne5 18.dxe5 0.31/18 *(18.Bb3± 0.95/19 Nc4 19.Bxc4 Qxc4 20.Bb4)* 18...Qxc4± 19.e6 Qxe6 20.Bxg7 Kxg7 21.Rxb7 Rxc1+ 22.Nxc1 Rd8 0.97/22 Hernandez Carmenates,H (2564)-Dos Santos,R (2453) Latin Cup Montevideo 2011 (4) ½-½
(22...Bc8= 0.25/21 23.Qd4+ Qf6 24.Qxf6+ exf6 25.Rxa7 f5)]
[16...Nxd4= 0.27/20 feels stronger. 17.Bxd4 Rxc4 18.Bxg7 Kxg7]
17.Rfd1 White is more active. **17...Rc7 18.Rbc1 Na5 19.Bxa5 bxa5 20.Qxa5 e6 21.Rc3 Rb7 22.Qxd8 Rxd8 23.Kf2 Rb2 24.Ke3 Ba4** 0.44/20
[24...Bf8= 0.08/21]
25.Rdd3 0.06/20
[25.Rd2!± 0.44/20 Rxd2 26.Kxd2 Bxd4 27.Nxd4 Rxd4+ 28.Ke3]
25...h5 0.46/20
[25...Bf8= 0.06/20]
26.e5 0.00/25
[26.Rd2!± 0.46/20 Rxd2 27.Kxd2 Bxd4 28.Nxd4 Rxd4+ 29.Ke3]
26...Bh6+ 27.f4 Threatening d4-d5. **27...g5** 0.47/21
[27...Bf8!= 0.02/23]
28.g3!± Kg7? 2.06/19
[28...gxf4+± 0.52/19 29.gxf4 Bf8]
29.h4+- gxh4 30.gxh4 Rb1 2.62/22
[⌓30...a6 1.85/18 31.d5 *(31.Bxa6 Rxa2 32.Ra3 Rxa3±)* 31...exd5]
31.Ng3 Kf8 3.08/23
[⌓31...Bd1 1.98/18]
32.Bb3
[32.Nxh5 Rh1∓]
32...Bb5 33.Bc4 Ba4 34.d5
[34.Nxh5 Rh1 35.Ng3 Rxh4±]
34...exd5 35.Rxd5
[35.Bxd5 Re1+ 36.Kf3 Bd7 37.Nxh5 Rh1±]
35...Re1+ 36.Kf2 Rd1 37.Rxd8+ Rxd8 38.Ke3 0.57/18
[White should play 38.Nxh5+- 2.72/23 Bc4-b3 is the strong threat. Rc8 39.Ke3]
38...Re8± 39.Ra3
[39.Nxh5? Rxe5+ 40.Kd3 Rxh5-+]
39...Bb5 Decoy **40.Bxb5 Rxe5+ 41.Kf3 Rxb5 42.Rxa7=** Endgame. KRB-KRN **42...Kg8 43.f5 Re5 44.Ra6**
[44.Nxh5 Rxf5+ 45.Kg4 Rf2∓]
44...Bf8 2.02/23
[44...Bd2= 0.07/23 and Black has nothing to worry.]
45.Kf4
[45.Nxh5 Rxf5+ 46.Kg4 Rc5±]
45...Re1 2.29/22
[45...Re8 1.73/21 was called for. 46.Kg5 *(46.Nxh5 Be7=)* 46...Bc5]
46.Nxh5 0.89/22
[46.Ra8!+- 2.29/22 and the rest is easy.]
46...Rh1? 4.44/20
[46...Be7± 0.89/22 is a better chance.]
47.Kg4? 1.14/21
[47.Ra8+- 4.44/20 is the precise move to win. Rxh4+ 48.Kg5]

47...Be7 48.f6! Bc5 1.91/22
[48...Bb4± 1.12/22 49.Ra4 Bd6]
49.Ng3!+- Rg1 50.Kf3 Prevents Bc5-f2.
50...Bd4



51.Nf5! Be5 4.71/23
[51...Bc3± 1.21/23 is more resistant. 52.Kf2 Ra1]



52.Kf2!
[52.Nh6+ Kh7 53.Nxf7 Bxf6±]
52...Rb1 53.Nh6+ Deflection **53...Kh7 54.Nxf7 Bd4+ 55.Ke2** Strongly threatening Nf7-g5+. **55...Rb2+ 56.Kd3**
Black must now prevent Nf7-g5+.
56...Bxf6 57.Rxf6 KRN-KR **57...Kg7 58.Rf4 Rxa2 59.Ne5 Kh6 60.Rf5 Ra4 61.Nf3 Kg6 62.Rb5 Kh6 63.Ke3 Rc4 64.Kf2 Rg4 65.Ra5 Rb4 66.Kg3 Rc4 67.Ne5 Rc3+ 68.Kg4 Rc7 69.Ra6+ Kh7 70.h5 Re7 71.Kf5 Rb7 72.Rd6 Rb5 73.Re6 Rb7 74.Ng4** 54.47/24
[⌓74.h6 #20/26 Rc7 75.Kg5 Rb7 76.Ng6 Rb5+ 77.Re5 Rb7 78.Re7+ Rxe7 79.Nxe7]
74...Rb5+ 75.Re5 White mates.
75...Rb7 76.h6 Kg8 77.Re8+ Kh7 78.Kg5 Rb5+ 79.Re5
Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/ Black=0.55
1-0

E11

□ **Dubov,Daniil** **2701**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
CrunchLab Masters Div 3 W rapid (4.2)
[Kitty Kat]

E11: Bogo-Indian
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 e6 4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Be7N
[5...Bd6 6.Bg2 0-0 7.Qc2 c6 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Rd1 *(9.b3 Ne4 10.Nc3 Nxd2 11.Nxd2 f5 12.Rab1 Qe7 13.e3 b6 14.cxd5 Ba6 15.dxc6 Bxf1 16.Rxf1 Nf6 17.Nb5 Bc7 18.Nc4 a6 19.Nxc7 Qxc7 20.Ne5 Rfd8 21.Rc1* Spies (2373)-12.b3 (2144) Dublin 1993 (5) 1-0*)* 9...Ne4 10.Nc3 f5 11.e3 Qe7 12.Ne2 Nxd2 13.Rxd2 Nf6 14.Rdd1 Bd7 15.Nf4 Be8 16.a3 Ne4 17.Ne5 g5 18.Nfd3 h5 19.b4 Topalov,V (2813)-Ponomariov,R (2727) Zürich (rapid) 2009 Kh8 20.f3 Nf6 21.a4 Bxb4 22.Nxb4 Qxb4 23.Rab1 Qe7 24.a5 Rc8 25.cxd5

Nxd5 26.Qb3 Rc7 27.e4 Nf6 28.Re1 fxe4 29.fxe4 Nd7 30.Nd3 Bg6 31.Rf1 Rxf1+ 32.Rxf1 Kh7 33.Qc3 c5 34.Nf2 11...♕c7 12.♘bd2 cd4 13.c,4 (2813)-Warlick,J (2727) (m/2) 94/(448) 2005 (6) 1-0]

6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Qc2 c6 9.Rc1 a5 10.Bf4 a4!? 10...h6 is becoming the main line. A promising side line.10...h6 wird zur Hauptvariante. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante. **11.h4** The position is equal. **11...h6 12.a3 Qa5 13.Nbd2 Nh5 14.Be5N**

[Vorgänger: 14.e3 f5 0.78/23 *(14...Nxf4= 0.19/21* remains equal. *15.exf4 Rd8)* 15.Ne5 0.17/20 *(*White should play *15.cxd5± 0.78/23 Nxf4 16.exf4 cxd5 17.Qd3)* 15...Nxf4= 16.exf4 Nxe5 17.fxe5 Bd7 18.Qc3 Qd8 19.h5 -0.67/19 *(19.b4= 0.00/22)* 19...Be8 -0.18/20 *(19...f4∓* -0.67/19 is more appropriate.*)* 20.Bf3 Volkov,M (2235)-Petrov,N (2559) Novorossiysk Small Land Blitz op 2023 (4) ½-½]

14...f6 15.Bf4 Nxf4 16.gxf4 f5 17.e3 Qd8 18.Qc3 -0.48/21

[18.cxd5= 0.24/23 exd5 *(18...Bxh4? 19.dxc6 bxc6 20.b4+-)* 19.Bh3]

18...Bxh4∓ 19.Nxh4 Qxh4 20.Nf3 Qe7 21.Rab1 Nf6 -0.23/21

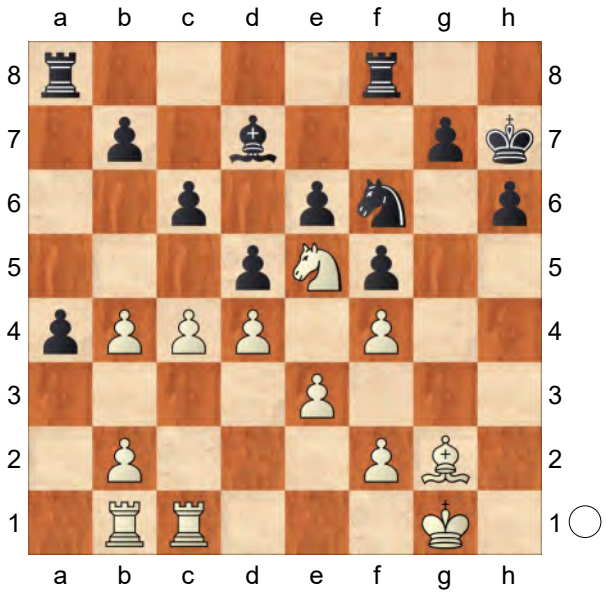
[21...g5∓ -0.73/20]

22.Ne5= Kh7 Prevents Ne5-g6 **23.Qb4 Qxb4 24.axb4 Bd7**

(Diagram)

25.b5! Rfc8 26.b6 dxc4 27.Nxc4 Ra6 28.Ra1 Rca8 29.Ra3 Nd5 30.b3 -0.70/26

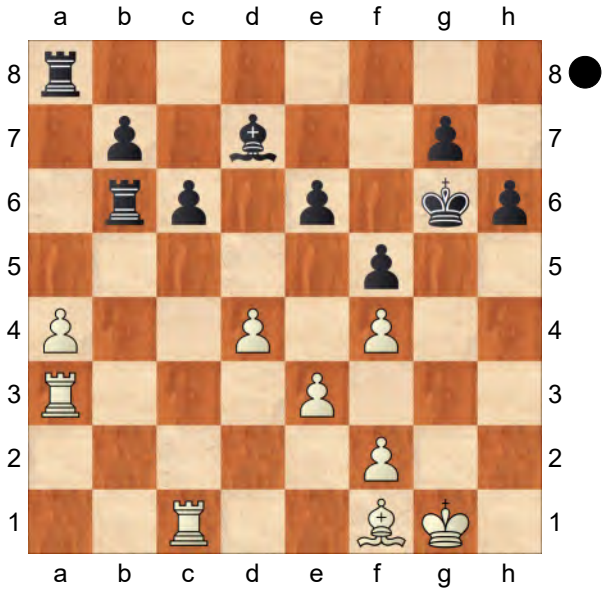
[30.Bxd5!= -0.26/24 feels stronger. cxd5 *(30...exd5 31.Ne5=)* 31.Ne5]



30...Nxb6∓ 31.Nxb6 -1.23/21

[White should try 31.Ne5∓ -0.45/22]

31...Rxb6∓ 32.bxa4 Kg6 33.Bf1



Kf6 -0.86/22

[⌓33...Ra5! -1.44/25 34.Rc5 Rxc5 35.dxc5 Rb1]

34.a5 Rb2 35.a6 Ra7 36.Raa1 Ke7 37.axb7 Rxa1

[But not 37...Raxb7 38.Ra8∓]

38.Rxa1 Rxb7= Endgame. KRB-KRB **39.Bg2 Rc7 40.Ra5 Kd6 41.Kh2 c5** Threatens to win with ...c5-c4. **42.dxc5+ Rxc5 43.Rxc5 Kxc5** KB-KB **44.e4?**

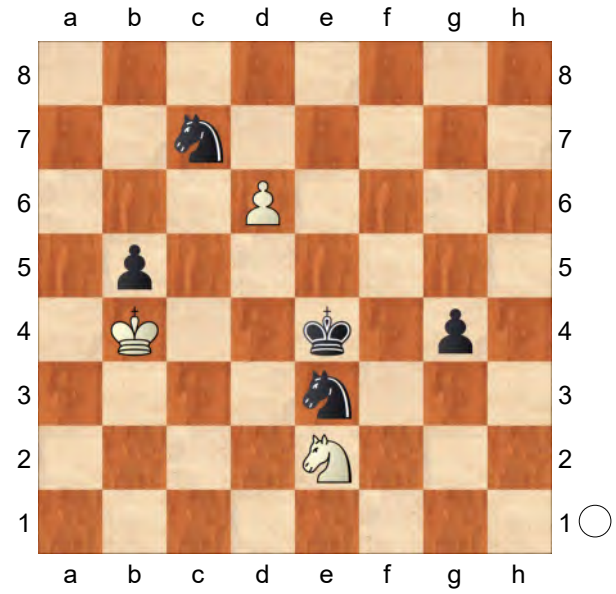
-6.95/24 Now White is beyond hope.
[44.Kg3∓ -0.34/38]
44...Bc6-+ Black is clearly winning. **45.f3 fxe4 46.fxe4 Kd4 47.Bh3 e5**
[Less strong is 47...Bxe4 48.Bxe6 Kc5 49.Kg3∓]
48.Kg3 exf4+ 49.Kxf4 g5+ 50.Kg3 Ke5
Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/ Black=0.10 (very precise)
0-1

D02

□ **Fedoseev,Vladimir1** **2687**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
CrunchLab Masters PlayIn rapid (8)
[Kitty Kat]

D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4
1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bf4N
[3.e3 c6 *(3...c5 4.b3 Bg4 5.Be2 e6 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Bb2 Be7 8.Nbd2 0-0 9.c4 Rc8 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Rc1 Be7* D 04/01-N,N 2003*)* 4.Be2 Bg4 5.b3 Bxf3 6.Bxf3 e6 7.Bb2 Bd6 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.c4 Qe7 10.Nd2 0-0 11.Re1 Rad8 12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Bxe4 Nf6 15.Bd3 Ba3 16.Bc3 Bb4 17.Qd2 Bxc3 1.d4 d6/3. ♘f3 e4 4. ♘g5 41 (2303)-Van Heeren,A (1893) Prague International Open 2020 (3.37) 1-0]
[3.c4 c6 4.e3 e6 5.b3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.Bb2 b6 8.0-0 Bb7 9.Nbd2 0-0 10.Ne5 Qc7 11.f4 c5 12.Qe1 cxd4 13.exd4 Bb4 14.a3 Bxd2 15.Qxd2 Ne4 16.Qe3 f6 17.Rac1 Qd8 Savchenko,B (2569)-Caruana,F (2620) 102/(304) Plovdiv 2008]
[3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 cxd4 5.Nxd4 e5 6.Nb3 Be6 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Bg5 Be7 9.Nc3 d4 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Ne4 Qb6 *(11...Bd5 12.e3 f5 13.Ned2 Bxg2 14.Kxg2* D 02/08-N,N 2003*)* 12.c3 f5 13.Ned2 0-0 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.e3 Nxb3 16.Nxb3 Bc4 17.Qf3 Bxf1 10.♗e2 ♗e6 11.0-0 (2426)-Bisguer,A (2278) Wichern op 5th 1999 (6.2) ½-½]
3...c5 4.e3 Nc6 5.Nbd2 e6 6.c3 c4 6...cxd4 is setting a new trend. 6...cxd4 setzt einen neuen Trend. **7.a4 Be7 8.b3 cxb3** White has an edge. **9.Qxb3 Nh5N**
[Vorgänger: 9...0-0 10.Bd3 Na5 11.Qc2 h6 0.87/20 *(11...b6=* 0.27/22 remains equal.*)* 12.Ne5 0.17/23 *(*White should play *12.g4!±* 0.87/20 *)* 12...g5? 1.68/18 *(12...Nd7=* 0.17/23 *)* 13.Bg3+- Nh5 2.48/19 *(⌓13...Nc6* 1.74/19 *14.0-0 Nd7)* 14.Nxf7? -0.61/20 *(*Better is *14.Qd1!+-* 2.48/19 *Ng7 15.h4 gxh4 16.Bf4)* 14...Rxf7∓ 15.Bg6 Nf6 And now ...Rf7-g7 would win. 16.Bxf7+ Kxf7 Graziani,J (1830)-Bewekedi Jangwa,V (1670) FRA-ch op-B Paris 1994 (4) 0-1]
10.Be5 0-0 11.Bd3 b6 12.h3 Nf6 13.Bh2 Bd6 14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.0-0 Bd7 16.Qa3 Qxa3 17.Rxa3 Rfc8 18.Nb3 Kf8 19.Rc1 Ne8 20.Kf1 Nd6 21.Ke2 Ke7 22.a5 Nd8 23.axb6 axb6 24.Rxa8 Rxa8 25.Ra1 Rxa1 26.Nxa1 Bb5 27.Nd2 Inhibits Nd6-e4. **27...Nc6 28.Bxb5 Nxb5=** Endgame. KNN-KNN **29.Kd3 e5 30.Kc2 h5 31.Nab3 e4 32.Nc1 h4 33.c4 Nd6 34.cxd5 Nb4+ 35.Kb3 Nxd5 36.Ne2 f5 37.Nb1 g5 38.Nbc3 Nc7 39.g3 g4** aiming for ... h4xg3. **40.Nf4**
[40.gxh4? gxh3 41.Ng3 Kf7-+]
[40.hxg4? h3 41.gxf5 h2-+]
40...gxh3 41.Nxh3 hxg3 42.fxg3 Kf6 43.Ka4 Nc4 44.g4 Deflection **44...fxg4**

45.Nxe4+ Kg6 46.Nf4+ Kf5 47.Ng3+ Kg5 48.d5 b5+ 49.Kb4 Nxe3 50.d6 Kxf4 51.Ne2+ Ke4? 9.49/22
[51...Ke5= -0.12/23 52.dxc7 Nd5+ 53.Kxb5 Nxc7+ 54.Kc4 Ke4 55.Ng3+ Kf3]

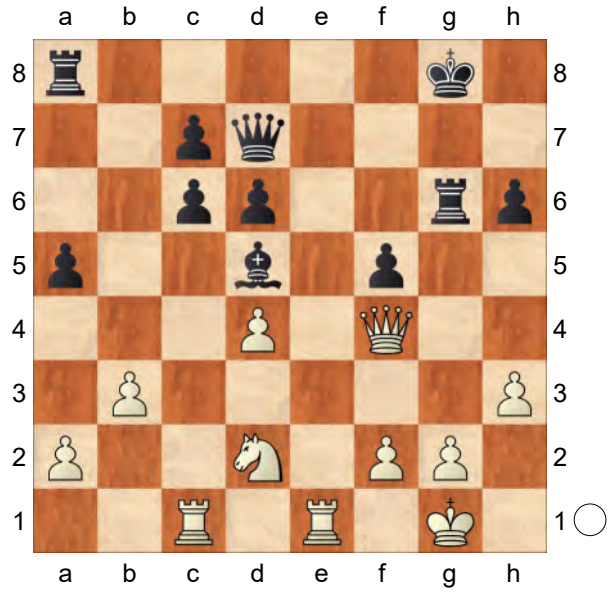


This costs Black the game. **52.Nc3+!+-**
[52.dxc7? Nd5+ 53.Kxb5 Nxc7+ 54.Kc4 Nd5-+]
52...Ke5 53.dxc7 g3 54.c8Q Qc8-e8+ would kill now.
[54.c8N Nd5+ 55.Nxd5 Kxd5 *(55...g2? 56.Ncb6-+)* 56.Ne7+ Ke4 57.Kxb5 g2 58.Nc6 g1Q *(58...g1R 59.Kc5=)* 59.Kc4 Qc1+ 60.Kb5 Qg5+ 61.Kb6 Kd5 62.Kb5 Kd6+ 63.Kc4 Qd5+ *(63...Kxc6* gets mated. *64.Kd4 Qf4+ 65.Kc3 Qe3+ 66.Kc2 Kc5 67.Kd1 Kc4 68.Kc2 Qf2+ 69.Kd1 Kd3 70.Kc1 Qc2#)* 64.Kb4 Qd2+ *(64...Qxc6 65.Kb3 Kd5 66.Kb2 Kc4 67.Kc1 Kc3 68.Kd1 Qe8 69.Kc1 Qe1#)* 65.Kb5 Qd3+ 66.Ka4 Kxc6 67.Kb4 Kb6 68.Ka4 Kc5 69.Ka5 Qb5#]
54...g2 55.Qc5+ White mates.
[55.Kxb5 g1Q=]
55...Kf4 56.Qd4+ Kf3 57.Qe4+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.22 (precise)
[Weaker is 57.Kxb5 g1Q=]
1-0

C64
□ **Gurel,Ediz** **2602**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
Bundesliga 2425 (2.2) 29.09.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C64: Ruy Lopez: Classical Defence (3...Bc5) except 4 0-0 Nf6
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.e5 Nd5 7.0-0
[7.Nxd4 Nde7= *(7...Nxe5 8.Nb3∓)*]
7...Be7 8.cxd4 White is slightly better.
8...d6 9.Nc3N outshines the older 9. exd6. erfolgreicher als das alte 9.exd6.
[9.exd6 cxd6 *(9...Qxd6 10.Nc3 a6 11.Ba4 0-0 12.Re1 Be6 13.Ne4 Qb4 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Qc2* Chapter-Games Chapter 6 Game 4*)* 10.Qb3 Nc7 11.d5 Nxb5 12.Qxb5 a6 13.Qe2 Ne5 14.Nxe5 dxe5 15.Qxe5 0-0 16.Nc3 Bd6 17.Qd4 Qc7 18.g3 *(18.h3 Re8 19.Be3 Bf5 20.Rac1* Chapter-3...Bc5 2023*)* 18...Bh3 19.Rd1 Bc5 20.Qf4 Bd6 21.Qh4 Qd7 22.Ne4 Be5 23.Be3 f6 De Vilder,H-Zverev,L 88/144 Enghien les Bains 2003]
9...Be6 10.Ne4 a6N
[Vorgänger: 10...0-0 11.h3 Bf5 12.Re1 a6 13.Bxc6 0.00/23 *(13.Ba4± 0.42/21)* 13...bxc6= 14.Bd2 Rb8 15.b3 Nb4 0.72/21 *(15...Qd7=* 0.28/22 *)* 16.Bxb4 Rxb4 Yoo,C (2606)-Vemparala,N (2192) Chesterfield SPICE Cup op 2023 (2) 1-0]
11.Bxc6+ bxc6 12.Bg5 0-0 13.Rc1

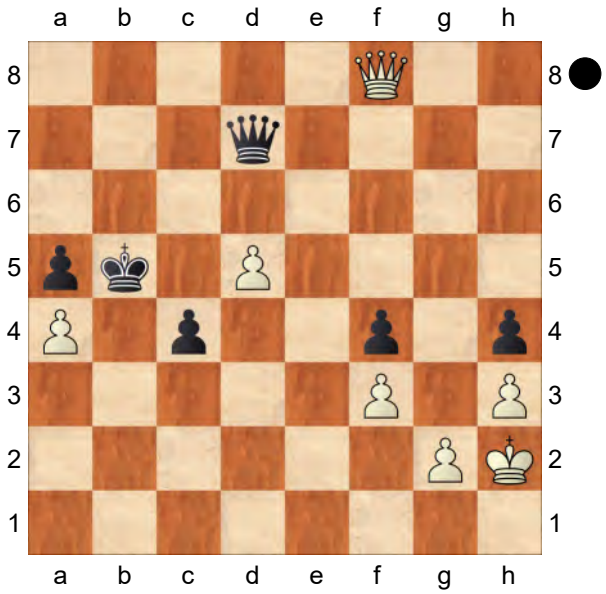
h6 14.Bxe7 Nxe7 15.Re1 a5 16.b3 Qd7 17.h3 Nd5 18.Nfd2 f5 19.exf6 gxf6 0.65/19
[19...Nxf6= 0.19/18 20.Nxf6+ Rxf6]
20.Qf3 0.15/22
[20.Qh5± 0.65/19]
20...f5= 21.Ng3 Rf6 0.63/21
[21...Kh8= -0.22/21]
22.Nh5± Hoping for Qf3xd5! White is more active. **22...Rg6 23.Nf4 Nxf4 24.Qxf4 Bd5**



25.Nf3 0.31/20
[25.g3!± 0.87/23]
25...Rf8 0.82/22
[25...Qg7± 0.31/20 26.g3 *(26.Qxf5? Rxg2+ 27.Kf1 Rf8-+)* 26...Rf6]
26.Nh4± Re6 27.Rxe6 0.38/20
[27.Nxf5? Rxf5 *(27...Rxe1+? 28.Rxe1 Qxf5 29.Qxf5-+)* 28.Qh4 Rg6-+]
[27.Kh2± 0.82/20]
27...Qxe6± 28.Nf3 Qf6 29.Re1 Rf7 30.Re3 Kf8 31.Kh2 Re7 32.Rxe7 Kxe7 Endgame. KQB-KQN **33.Nh4** 0.00/25
[33.Nd2± 0.36/22 deserves consideration.]
33...Be4= 34.Nf3 Against Qf6-g5
34...Kd7 35.Qe3 Bd5 36.Ne1 f4 37.Qd2 h5 38.f3 h4 39.Kg1 Bf7 40.Kh2 Bd5 41.Kg1 Kc8 42.Nc2 Kb7 43.Kh1 Ka6 44.Na3 Qf5 45.Kh2 Be6 46.Qf2 Qf6 47.Qd2 Bf7 48.Nb1 c5 0.41/21
[48...Bg6= 0.00/28]
49.Qe2+ 0.00/26
[49.Qd3+± 0.41/21 c4 50.bxc4]
49...c4 50.Na3 Qe6 51.Qc2
[51.Qxc4+ Qxc4 52.bxc4 *(52.Nxc4 Bxc4 53.bxc4 d5-+)* 52...Kb6-+]
51...d5 52.bxc4 dxc4 53.Qa4 -0.48/25
[53.Qh7= 0.00/24 was preferrable.]
53...c6 0.00/42
[53...Qe8!∓ -0.48/25 54.Qc2 *(54.Qxe8? Bxe8 55.Nb1 Kb5-+)* 54...Qc6]
54.Nb1! Qg6 55.Nc3! Bd5 Repels Nc3-e4 **56.Nxd5 cxd5** KQ-KQ **57.Qd7 Kb6** And now ...Qg6-c6 would win. **58.Qxd5 Qc6** Wards off Qd5-c5+ **59.Qd8+ Qc7 60.Qf6+**
[60.Qxh4!? c3□ 61.Qf6+ Kb7 62.d5=]
60...Kb5 61.Qf5+
[61.Qxh4? c3 62.Qg5+ Kb4-+]
61...Kb4 62.Qf8+ Kb5! 63.d5 Black must now prevent d5-d6. **63...Qd7! 64.a4+**

(Diagram)

Deflection **64...Kxa4 65.Qc5 Kb3?** 6.68/24
[65...Qb5± 0.68/25 66.Qd4 *(66.Qxb5+ Kxb5 67.Kg1 c3 68.Kf2 c2 69.Ke2 c1Q 70.d6 Qc2+ 71.Kf1 Qd1+ 72.Kf2 Kc6 73.d7 Kxd7 74.g4 hxg3+ 75.Kg2 Qe2+ 76.Kg1 Qh2+ 77.Kf1 Qf2#)* 66...Kb3]
66.d6? 1.38/21
[66.Qb6++- 6.68/24 is more deadly.



Kc2 67.Qe6 *(67.Qxa5 c3=)*]

66...Qg7? 10.07/25 Black cannot hold the game after this.

[66...c3± 1.38/21]

67.Qb5++- Kc3 8.75/21

[⌓67...Ka3 4.95/20 68.Qxa5+ Kb3 69.Qb5+ Deflection Ka3 70.Qxc4 Qg3+ 71.Kg1 Qe1+ 72.Qf1 Qd2 73.Qa1+ Kb4]

68.Qxa5+ Kb3 69.Qb5+ Kc3 70.Kh1 Qd4 71.d7 Kd3 72.Qc6 Kd2 73.Qc7 Ke1 74.d8Q Qa1 75.Qa5+ 49.21/27

Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)

[75.Qxf4 gets mated. Kf2+]

[⌓75.Kh2 #7/13 Qc1 76.Qe5+ *(76.Qxh4+ Ke2 77.Qhh7 Kf1 78.Qb6 Qe3 79.Qhb1+ Ke2 80.Qc2+ Qd2 81.Qe6+* Deflection, Double Attack *Kf1 82.Qxd2 c3 83.Qde2#)* 76...Kf2 77.Qxh4+ Kf1 78.Qd4 *(78.Qexf4 Qxf4+ 79.Qxf4 Ke1 80.Qxc4 Kd2 81.f4 Ke1 82.Qc2 Kf1 83.Kg3 Ke1 84.f5 Kf1 85.Qf2#)* 78...Qe1 79.Qxc4+ Qe2 80.Qc1+ Qe1 81.Qhxe1#]

1-0

D02

□ **Indjic,Aleksandar** **2611**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**

Olympiad-45 Budapest (4.3) 14.09.2024

[Kitty Kat]

D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nc6 3.d4N

[3.Bg2 e5 4.d3

A) 4...Nge7 5.0-0 g6 6.c4 Bg7 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Nc3 Nde7 9.Bd2 0-0 10.Rb1 *(10.Qc1 Nf5 11.Ne4 Nfd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Re1 Bg4* Reversed Dragon-Line 2.6.3.1 vs. 9.Bd2 *)* 10...Nd4 11.Ne1 c6 12.b4 Bg4 13.h3 Be6 14.e3 Ndf5 15.a4 Nd6 16.a5 Rc8 Reversed Dragon-Line 2.6.3.2 vs. 9.Bd2-Furthe;

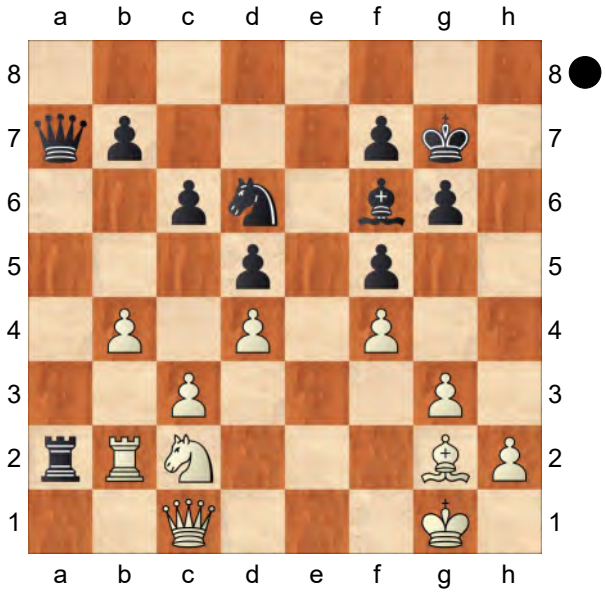
B) 4...Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.c3 *(6.c4 0-0 7.Na3 e4 8.Ne1 Be6 9.b3 Qc8 10.Bb2 Rd8 11.Qb1 Bh3 12.Nac2 Qe6 13.cxd5 Rxd5 14.dxe4 Rh5 15.Nd3 g5 16.Bf3 Rh6 17.e5 Bxf1 18.Qxf1 Ng4 19.h3 Ngxe5 20.Nxe5 Nxe5* King'S Indian Attack-5.00 ♗e7_42089 Survey 2007 *)* 6...a5 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.e4 dxe4 9.dxe4 Be6 10.Qe2 Qd6 11.Nh4 g6 12.Re1 Rfd8 13.Ndf3 Qc5 14.Bf1 a4 15.Be3 Qa5 16.Ng5 Bd7 17.Qc4 Be8 Komodo-Bogdanovic, R 6: World Championship Match 1985]

3...Bf5 4.Bg2 Nb4 5.Na3 e6 6.c3 Nc6 7.Qb3 Rb8 8.Nh4 Hoping for Nh4xf5. White is slightly better. **8...Be4 9.f3 Bg6 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.e4 Nf6 12.Bg5** -0.04/21

[Better is 12.Nc2± 0.48/20]

12...Be7 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.exd5! exd5 15.Nc2 -0.62/24

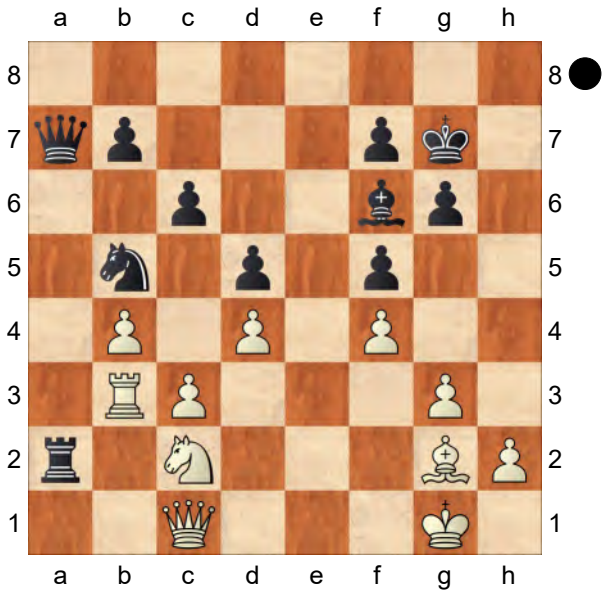
[15.f4= -0.10/21]
15...Na5∓ 16.Qb5+ c6 17.Qe2 Nc4 18.b3 Nd6 19.0-0 Kf8 20.Ne1 Qa5 21.Rc1 Nf5 22.b4 Qc7 aiming for ... Rh8xh2! **23.f4 a5 24.a3 Re8** ...Be7xb4! would now be deadly. **25.Qd2 Nd6 26.Nc2 f5 27.Rfe1 Kg7 28.Re2 Ra8 29.Ree1 Bf6 30.Re2 axb4 31.axb4 Ra2** Black is more active. **32.Ree1** -1.69/23
[32.Qe1∓ -1.05/18]
32...Rha8 33.Ra1 Qb6 34.Reb1 R8a4 35.Qc1 Qa7 36.Rxa2 Rxa2 37.Rb2? -3.29/21
[37.Kh1 -1.61/18]



37...Nb5!-+ 38.Rb3? -5.70/21
[38.Rxa2 -3.29/25 Qxa2 39.Bf1 Nxc3 40.Bd3]

(Diagram)

38...Nxc3! Black is clearly winning. **39.Rxc3 Bxd4+** Overworked Piece **40.Nxd4** And now Qc1-e3 would win. **40...Ra1!** Pin.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.24



(precise) /Black=0.07 (flawless)
[40...Qxd4+ 41.Qe3 Qxb4 42.Rb3±]
0-1

E20

□	**Erigaisi,Arjun**	**2762**
■	**Maghsoodloo,Parham**	**2733**

Sharjah Masters 7th (7) 20.05.2024
[John Emms,Kitty Kat]

E20: Nimzo-Indian: 4 g3 and 4 f3
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 It's no surprise to see this sharp line as part of Erigaisi's repertoire. **4...c5 5.d5 b5 6.e4! 0-0** Maghsoodloo allows the advance of the e-pawn. 6...d6 is the main alternative. **7.e5**
[7.cxb5 exd5 8.exd5 Re8+ 9.Be2 d6]
7...Ne8 8.f4 exd5 9.cxd5 d6 10.Nf3 c4 11.a4 dxe5!? This is a relatively rare choice.
[11...Nd7 is the main line, and here Erigaisi has played 12.axb5!? : *(12.Be2* is the most popular choice - see the notes to Firouzja,A-So,W/ chess24.com 2021*)* 12...dxe5!

13.Bxc4 Nd6 0.25/19 *(13...Qc7!; 13...Qc7!∓* -0.31/21 *14.Be2 e4)* 14.Be2=

A) 14...exf4 15.0-0 Bb7 0.99/19 *(*Black should play *15...g5±* 0.36/21 *)* 16.Bxf4± favoured White in Erigaisi,A-Nakamura,H/Kolkata 2022;

B) 14...Qb6!

B1) 15.Bd2

B1a) 15...Bxc3 0.40/20 15...e5-e4 -0.17 16.Bxc3 Ne4 17.Rf1 Dodges Qb6-f2+ Nxc3 18.bxc3 Qc5 0.90/22 *(18...exf4±* 0.34/22 *19.Qd4 Re8)* 19.c4 0.35/20 *(19.fxe5±* 0.90/22 Hoping for Qd1-d4. *Qxc3+ 20.Kf2 Nxe5 21.Qd4 Qxd4+ 22.Nxd4)* 19...Re8!± 20.Rf2 was better for White in Piesik,P-Kozak,A/Slovakia 2020;

B1b) 15...e4! 16.Ne5 e3;

B2) 15.fxe5 Nxe5! appears to be a critical line. For example, 16.Nxe5 Re8! 17.Nd3 Ne4 18.Qc2! Nxc3 *(18...Bf5!?)* 19.bxc3 Bg4! 20.Nf4 Rac8!

B2a) 21.Bb2 Qe3! 22.Qd2 -0.74/21 *(22.Qc1∓* -0.36/24 *Rxc3 23.Qxe3 Rcxe3+ 24.Kd1 Bxe2+ 25.Nxe2 Rxe2 26.Kc1)* 22...Rxc3!;

B2b) 21.Bd2! Bxe2 22.Nxe2 Qxb5 23.0-0! Qxe2 24.Rae1 Qc4 25.Qf5 Bc5+ 26.Kh1 f6 and the engine says 0.00!]

12.fxe5 Bg4 13.axb5 is another way to reach the game position.

[13.Be2! Nd7 14.Bf4 has been seen a few times in correspondence games, with Black holding in the complications.

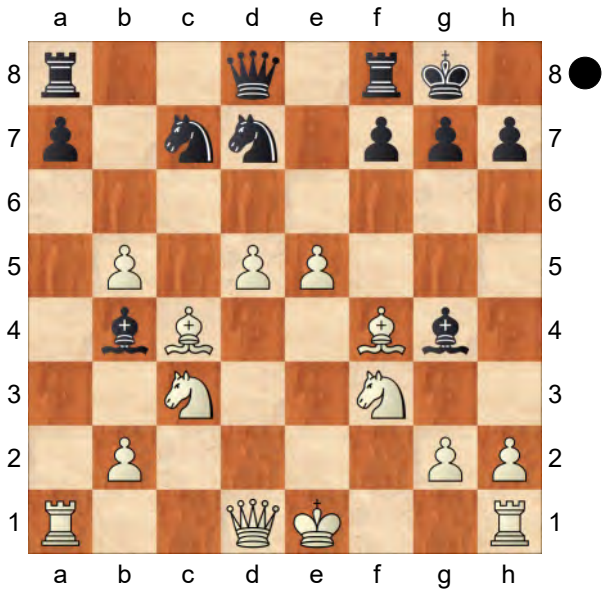
A) 14...Nb6 15.axb5 Strongly threatening d5-d6. *(15.d6!? Nxa4 16.Qd2* is worth a look for example,. next 0-0 is good for White. *f6 17.Rd1 fxe5 18.Bxe5 Nf6* Wards off Qd2-d5+ *19.0-0* with good compensation for White*)* 15...Nxd5 16.Bg5 Qd7 17.Bxc4 Nec7 18.0-0 Bxc3! 19.bxc3 Nxc3 20.Qxd7 Bxd7 21.Bd2 N3xb5 22.Ng5 Ne6 23.Rad1 Rfc8 (â-â Neubauer,R-Borwell,A/ICCF email 2012). Black equalises with accurate play, e.g. 24.Bd5 Bc6 25.Ba2 Nbc7 26.Nxf7 *(26.Rxf7!? Bd5□ 27.Nxe6 Kxf7 28.Nxc7 Bxa2 29.Nxa8 Rxa8 30.Rc1∓)* 26...Bd5!=;

B) 14...Qb6 15.d6! Dodges Ne8-c7. Black should prevent a4xb5. bxa4 16.Kf1! Be6! Otherwise Nd5 was coming. 17.Rxa4 Bc5 18.Bxc4 Qxb2 19.Qd2! Qxd2! 20.Bxd2 Bxc4+! 21.Rxc4 With the idea Kf1-e2. f6! Black has to break up White's impressive pawn centre. 22.Ne4 *(22.e6?* -1.91/20 22.Nc3-e4 0.11 *Nxd6)* 22...fxe5! 23.Nxc5 Nxc5 24.Rxc5 e4 25.Bg5! *(25.d7!? Nf6□ 26.Re5±)* 25...exf3 26.Be7 Rf4! This allows Black to contain the d-pawn with ...Rd4. 27.gxf3 (â-â Oikamo,T-Engelen,J/ICCF email 2021). d6-d7 is the strong threat. *(27.d7!? Rd4□ 28.Rc8 Rxd7 29.Rxa8 Rd1+ 30.Kf2 Rxh1 31.Rxa7±)* 27...Nf6 28.Rg1 Kf7 29.Ke2 a5 and Black holds comfortably.]

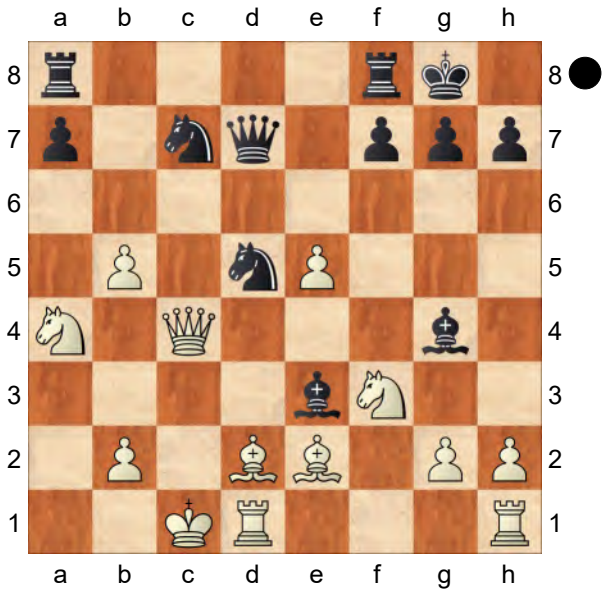
13...Nd7 14.Bf4 -0.21/20

[14.Qd4 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Nc7 16.Bxc4 Bc5! *(16...Bc5!? 17.Qe4 Nxe5±)* 17.Qe4 Nxe5! gives Black good

counterplay.]
[14.Bxc4? Bxf3 *(14...Nxe5 15.Be2∓)* 15.gxf3 Qh4+ *(15...Nxe5 16.Be2∓)* 16.Kf1 Qxc4+ 17.Qe2 Nxe5-+]
[14.Qd4! 0.17/22 was preferrable. Bxf3 15.gxf3]
14...Nc7!= 15.Bxc4



0-0 would now be deadly. **15...Nb6 16.Be2N**
[16.Bg5? Qxg5 17.Nxg5 Bxd1-+]
[16.Qd4 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Ne6 18.Qe4 Qh4+ 19.Bg3 Qxe4+ 20.fxe4 Nxc4 21.dxe6 Nxb2 4.f3-7.e5 with 10.a4 #1]
[16.Bb3 Nbxd5 17.Bd2 Nxc3 18.Bxc3 Bxf3 19.Qxd8 Bxc3+ 20.bxc3 Rfxd8 21.gxf3 Nxb5 4.f3-7.e5 with 10.a4 #2]
16...Nbxd5 17.Bd2 Bc5! Preventing White from castling. The opening battle has been successful for Maghsoodloo, and Black has a promising position here although it remains tremendously sharp and the assessment can change very quickly. **18.Qa4 Qd7 19.Qc4 Bb6 20.Na4**
[20.h3 simplifies Nxc3 21.Qxg4 Qxg4 22.hxg4 Nxe2 23.Kxe2 f6 24.exf6 Rxf6 25.Ra4]
20...Bxf3
[20...Be3! is the best move here, and after 21.Rd1 Black must now prevent Bd2xe3. *(21.0-0-0* -1.52/19 21.Ra1-d1 -0.27



a6!) 21...Qf5! Black's position looks easier to play.]
21.Bxf3 Threatening Na4xb6. **21...Rae8** 0.47/22
[21...Rad8= 0.06/19 is superior.]
22.0-0-0!± After the last two moves, suddenly queenside castling looks a lot safer for White! **22...Rxe5 23.Rhe1!**
[Much weaker is 23.Bf4 Qf5 24.Bxe5 *(24.Bxd5? Nxd5 25.Bxe5 Be3+ 26.Rd2 Rc8-+* Pin *)* 24...Be3+ 25.Rd2 Bxd2+ *(25...Qxe5 26.Rhd1∓)* 26.Kxd2 Qxe5∓]
23...Qf5 24.Rxe5
[24.g4!?]
24...Qxe5 25.Re1 It's now clear that White is the one who is pressing. **25...Qd6 26.Qc6 Rd8 27.Nxb6**
[27.Qxd6 simplifies Rxd6 28.Nxb6 axb6 29.Bc3]
27...axb6 28.Rd1 Ne7 0.45/22

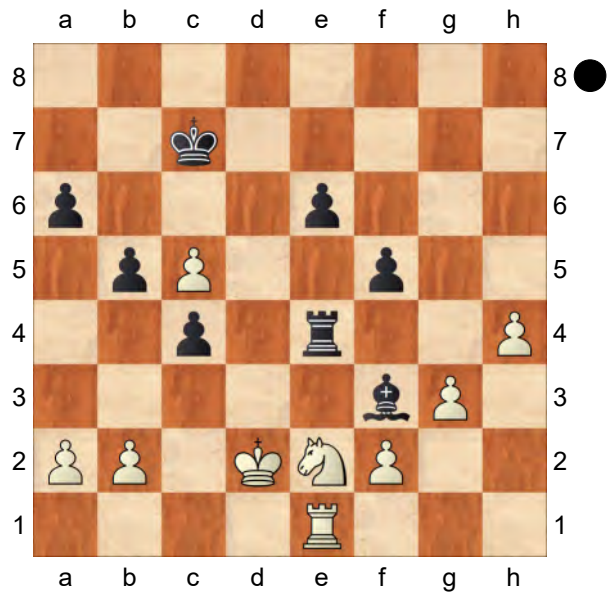
[28...Qe5= 0.00/21]
29.Qxd6 Rxd6 30.Be3 Rxd1+ 31.Kxd1= Endgame. With a healthy pawn majority on the queenside, the bishop pair advantage would be close to decisive. As it is, White is still better, but the doubled b-pawns give Black excellent chances to hold. KBB-KNN **31...Ned5 32.Bf2 f5 33.Kd2 Kf7 34.Kd3 g5 35.Kc4 Ke6 36.h3 Ke5 37.Bd4+ Kd6 38.g4 f4** The position is equal. **39.Be4 h6 40.Bf3**
[40.Bg7 is critical, but. And now Be4xd5! would win. Ne6! aiming for ... Nd5-e3+. 41.Bxh6 Ne3+ 42.Kd3 Ke5 gives Black dangerous counterplay. Prevents Be4-f5]
40...Ke6 41.Bg7 Kf7 42.Bd4 Again Maghsoodloo chooses not to take the pawn. This pair of bishops is nice.
[42.Bxh6 Ne3+ 43.Kd3 Ne6! forces White to play. Threatens to win with ...Kf7-g6. 44.h4 gxh4 and Black is okay.]
42...Ke6 43.Bg7 Kf7 44.Bd4
[44.Bxd5+ Kxg7 45.Bc6 Kf7∓]
44...Ke6 45.Be4 Kd6 46.Bh1 Ke6 47.Bf3 Kd6 48.b3 Ke6 49.Bg7 Kf7 50.Bd4
[50.Bxd5+ Kxg7 51.Bf3 Kf6∓]
50...Ke6 51.Bg7 Kf7 52.Bd4
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
[52.Bxd5+ Kxg7 53.Bc6 Kf6∓]
½-½

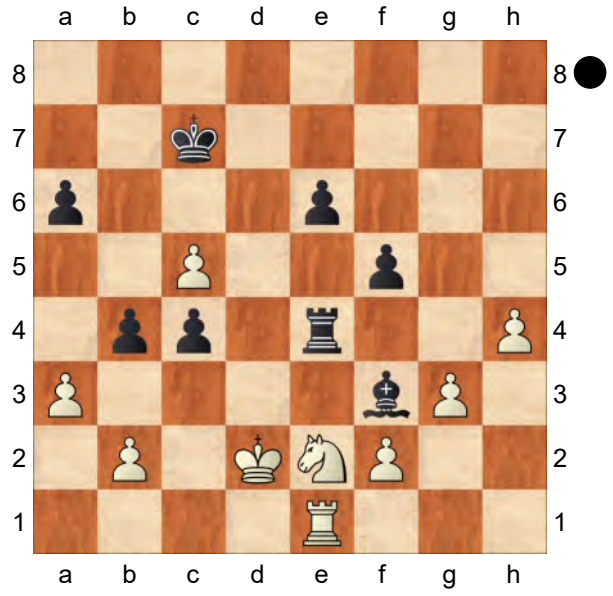
D44
□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju 2764**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2762**
Warsaw Superbet Blitz (2) 11.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

D44: Semi-Slav: Botvinnik System
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 c6 5.Bg5 dxc4 6.e4 b5 7.e5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Nxg5 hxg5 10.Bxg5 Nbd7 11.exf6 Bb7 12.h4 Nxf6 13.Qe2 Be7!
[13...Qxd4? too greedy. 14.Rd1 Qg4 15.Bxf6+-]
14.Qe5 Rg8! The position is equal. **15.0-0-0 Ng4! 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.Qf4N**
[17.Qe2 Nf6 18.Qe5 0-0-0 19.f3 Nd7 20.Qe3 a6 21.h5 c5 22.d5 Nf6 23.dxe6 Rxd1+ 24.Kxd1 Qxe6 25.Qxc5+ Kb8 26.Qd4 Qe7 27.Qf4+ Ka8 28.a3 Nd5 29.Nxd5 Bxd5 30.Kc2 c3 31.Qd4 Be6 4.♘f3 g6 5.♘bd2 (2723)-1.d4 ♘f6 2.♗g5 d6 (2470) (open) 66/113 1996 (2.3) 1-0]
17...0-0-0 18.Be2 Qc7 19.Qxc7+ Kxc7 20.Rhf1 -0.42/23
[20.Rhg1= 0.00/26 feels stronger.]
20...f5 0.28/22
[20...Nh6!∓ -0.42/23 21.Bf3 Nf5]
21.g3= a6 22.Bxg4 Rxg4 23.Ne2 c5 24.dxc5 Hoping for Rd1xd8. **24...Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1** Endgame. Strongly threatening Ne2-f4. KRB-KRN **25...Bf3 26.Re1** -2.63/24 Now White is beyond hope.
[26.Rd2!= 0.24/22 and White stays safe. e5 27.Ng1]
26...Re4!-+ 27.Kd2

(Diagram)

b4! White must now prevent ...e6-e5. **28.a3?** -5.47/29
[28.Ng1 -2.62/20 c3+ 29.bxc3 bxc3+ 30.Kxc3 Rxe1 31.Nxf3]

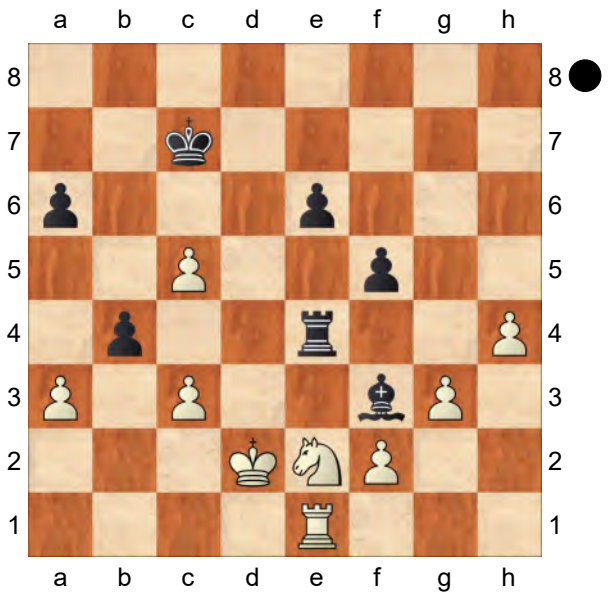




28...c3+! Black is clearly winning.
29.bxc3
[29.Kc2 Bxe2]

(Diagram)

29...b3
[Weaker is 29...bxa3 30.Nd4 Rxe1 31.Kxe1=]
[29...Bxe2 30.cxb4 Bf3 31.Re3± *(31.Rxe4 fxe4 32.Ke3 e5+-)*]



30.c4 -8.40/21
[⌓30.h5 -5.18/20 Bxh5 *(30...b2? 31.Kc2-+)* 31.Nc1 Rxe1 *(31...b2? 32.Rxe4 b1Q 33.Rb4-+)* 32.Nxb3 Re2+ 33.Kd3 Rxf2 34.Nd2]
30...Rxe2+ 31.Rxe2 Bxe2 32.Kc3 Bd1
Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/ Black=0.06 (flawless)
0-1

C54
□ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2766**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2762**
Warsaw Superbet Rapid (6) 09.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 d6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Re1 Bb6 8.h3 Prevents Nf6-g4. **8...Ne7 9.Nbd2** 9.a4 is a critical line.9.a4 ist die kritische Fortsetzung. **9...c6** White has an edge.
10.d4 Ng6 11.Bd3 exd4N
[11...Re8 12.Nf1 d5 *(12...h6 13.Ng3 Be6 14.Be3 Qc7 15.Qc2 Rad8 16.a4 Bc8 17.b4 a5 18.b5*

cxb5 19.Bxb5 exd4 20.Nxd4 Re5 21.Bd3 Bd7 22.Rab1 Bc5 23.Qb3 Bc6 24.Nxc6 bxc6 25.Bd4 Rg5 26.Qb7 Qxb7 27.Rxb7 18.♕d4 (2401)-Garcia Munoz,J (2405) (Game 36) Odessa 1960 (2) ½-½ *)* 13.Bg5 dxe4 14.Rxe4 h6 15.Bxf6 Qxf6 16.Re3 Be6 17.dxe5 Qe7 18.Re1 Nf4 19.Qd2 Nxd3 20.Qxd3 7) Italian 4...Bc5 5.c3 - Tre-Italian 4...Bc5 - Trendy Bb6]

[11...Nh5 12.Bf1 exd4 13.cxd4 Nhf4 14.b4 a5 15.Ba3 axb4 16.Bxb4 7) Italian 4...Bc5 5.c3 - Tre-Italian 4...Bc5 - Trendy Bb6]

12.cxd4 d5 13.exd5N

[Vorgänger: 13.e5 Nh5! 14.Nf1 Nhf4 15.Bxg6 -0.35/22 *(*Better is *15.Bxf4=* 0.23/21 *Nxf4 16.Qd2 Nxd3 17.Qxd3)* 15...Nxg6 0.67/19 *(15...fxg6∓* -0.35/22 *16.Ng3 Ne6)* 16.Bg5± f6 1.53/19 *(16...Qd7±* 0.55/20 *)* 17.exf6± gxf6 18.Bh6 Re8 19.Ng3 Rxe1+ 20.Qxe1 Karjakin,S (2773)-Le,Q (2739) Saint Louis Blitz 2017 (17) 1-0]

13...cxd5 0.31/22

[13...Nxd5= -0.07/18 is superior. 14.Nb3 Ndf4]

14.Nf1 Qd6 15.Ng3 Bd7 16.Bd2 Rfe8 17.Qb3 Bc6 18.Bb4 Qf4 19.Bd2 Qc7 20.Rac1 Ba5

[20...Ne4?! 21.Nxe4 dxe4 22.Bxe4±]

21.Qc2 Bxd2 22.Qxd2 Qd6 23.Nf5 Qf4 24.Qxf4

[24.Ne3 keeps more tension. Ne4 25.Qa5 Ng5 26.Nxg5 Qxg5 27.Bxg6 hxg6 28.Rcd1]

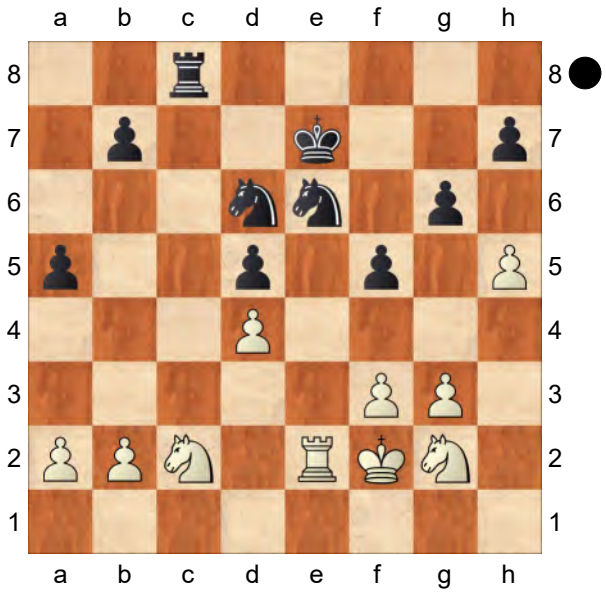
24...Nxf4 25.Bf1 Rxe1 26.Rxe1 Kf8 27.Ne5 Ne6 28.Rd1 Rd8 29.f3 g6 30.Ne3 Ne8 31.Nc2 f6 32.Ng4 -0.56/19

[32.Nxc6= -0.12/23 is more appropriate. bxc6 33.g3]

32...a5 -0.10/22

[32...h5∓ -0.56/19 feels stronger. 33.Nge3 h4]

33.h4 Rc8 34.Rd2 Kf7 35.g3 Nd6 36.Nge3 f5 37.Ng2 Bb5 38.Bxb5 Nxb5 39.Kf2 Ke7 40.h5 Nd6 41.Re2



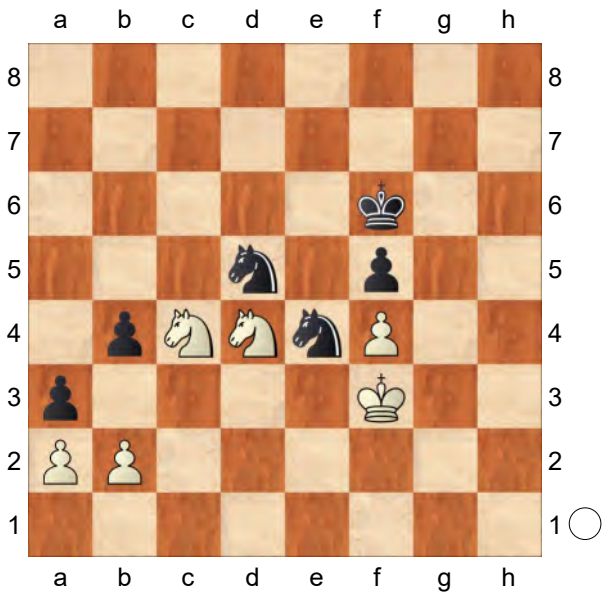
Hoping for Ng2-f4. **41...Kf7**

[41...gxh5? loses. 42.Nf4 Rxc2 43.Nxd5+ *(43.Rxc2 Nxf4 44.gxf4 Ke6+-)* 43...Kf7 44.Rxc2+-]

42.hxg6+ hxg6 43.Nge1 Rc4 44.Nd3 Strongly threatening Nd3-e5+. The position is equal. **44...Kf6**

[44...Nxd4? too greedy. 45.Ne5+ Ke6 46.Nxc4++-]

45.Ne5 Rc8 46.Ne3 Nxd4 47.Nxd5+ Ke6 48.Nf4+ Kf6 49.Nd7+ Kf7! 50.Rd2 Rc2! 51.Rxc2 Nxc2= Endgame. KNN-KNN **52.Ne5+ Kf6 53.Nfxg6 a4 54.f4 Ne4+ 55.Kf3 Nd4+ 56.Kg2 Ne2 57.Nf8 N2xg3 58.Kf3 Ke7 59.Nfd7 b5 60.Ke3 Kd6 61.Nb6 Nf6** Threatens to win with ...Kd6-c7. **62.Nc8+ Ke6 63.Na7 b4 64.Nac6 Nd5+ 65.Kf3 Ne4 66.Nd4+ Kf6 67.Nc4 a3**



Deflection **68.bxa3 bxa3 69.Nxa3 Nec3 70.Nc4 Nxa2 71.Nd6 Ne7**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

C06
☐ **Praggnanandhaa,Rameshbabu 2747**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2762**
Warsaw Superbet Blitz (4) 11.05.2024
[John Watson,MH]

Kitty Kat: 'C06: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 main lines
Neil McDonald: 'Smirin,I: 'Inf 83/246'''
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ngf3 a5 8.a3!? A useful slow move that prevents the occupation of b4 (e.g., by ...Nb4). Castling instead can encourage Black to advance on the kingside, and it also renders h4 less effective, e.g.,
[8.0-0
A) 8...a4 as well as;
B) 8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Nb6 (or here 9...Qb6) are also played.;
C) 8...g6 9.Re1 *(9.h4 cxd4 10.cxd4 Qb6 11.h5 Nxd4 12.Nxd4 Qxd4 13.Nf3 Qg4 14.h6 Be7 15.Qc2 0-0 16.Be3 Bd8 17.Nh2 Qb4 18.a3 Qe7 19.Ng4 Kh8 20.Rac1 Bb6 21.Bf4 Qc5 22.Qe2 Qe7 23.Qd2 Qh4* Choisy,M (2182)-Le Bail,C (1976) FRA-chT Top 12 2015 (10.8) 1-0*)* 9...Bg7 10.h4 0-0 11.h5 cxd4 12.cxd4 gxh5 13.Nb3 f6 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.Bg5 Qd6 16.Ne5 Ne4 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Rxe4 Nxe5 19.dxe5 Qxd1+ 20.Rxd1 b6 21.Be7 Re8 22.Bd6 Bb7 Smirin,I (2698)-Luther,T (2604) (m/2) 83/246 2001 1-0;
D) 8...Be7 9.Re1 cxd4 10.cxd4 g5!? 11.h3 h5 12.Nf1! g4 13.hxg4 hxg4 14.N3h2 Bb4? *(14...Nxd4 15.Qxg4 Nc6 16.Qg7 Rf8 17.Ng4! Nc5 18.Bb5 Kd7!* and White probably has somewhat the better chances but the play is unclear.*)* 15.Bd2? *(15.Re3!* , and this time *Nxd4 16.Qxg4 Nc6 17.Qg7 Rf8 18.Ng4 Be7* allows *19.Rf3!+-)* 15...Qh4∞ Tinmaz,K (2177)-Papasimakopoulos,A (2356) Chess.com 2023]
[8.h4 is another option, although cxd4 9.cxd4 Qb6 10.0-0 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 Qxd4 12.Nf3 is slightly less effective than usual due to Qg4!∞]
8...Be7
[8...a4 is natural, restraining the b-pawn and increasing light-square pressure, e.g.,
A) 9.Bc2 Qb6 *(9...cxd4 10.cxd4 Nb6 11.Nb1 Bd7 12.Nc3 Na5 13.h4!; 9...Qa5!?)* 10.0-0 cxd4 11.cxd4 Nxd4 12.Bxa4 Nc6=;
B) 9.0-0!? Qb6 *(9...g5!? 10.Nb1! g4 11.Ng5 Qb6! 12.Qxg4 cxd4∞ 13.Bf4!? Ncxe5 14.Bxe5 Nxe5*

15.Qf4 Bg7 16.cxd4 h6 17.dxe5 hxg5 18.Qxg5 Kf8 looks very unclear *)* 10.Re1 Be7 11.h4 h6 *(11...cxd4 12.cxd4 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 Qxd4 14.Nf3 Qg4∞)* 12.h5 cxd4 13.cxd4 Nxd4

B1) 14.b4!! axb3 *(14...Nxf3+ 15.Nxf3 0-0 16.Bb1±)* 15.Nxd4 Qxd4 16.Nxb3 Qb6 17.Bc2 with a lot of play and attacking chances for the pawn.;

B2) 14.Nxd4? Qxd4 15.Nf3 Qg4 16.Bd2 *(16.Be3!? Qxh5 17.Be2 Nxe5∓)* 16...0-0 17.Rc1 Nc5 18.Bb1 Ne4∓ Mamedov,R (2646)-Salgado Lopez,I (2591) Chess.com 2022 *(18...b6!)*]

[Black could also choose 8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Nb6 , following the idea in this month's game Dragnev-Vasquez Schroeder.]

9.0-0 Kitty Kat: 'N'

[9.h4 c4 10.Bc2 b5 11.Nf1 Qc7 12.Ng3 h6 13.Nh5 Bf8 14.Rh3 g6 15.Nf4 Nb6 16.Nh2 Ne7 17.Ng4 Bd7 18.Nf6+ Kd8 19.h5 g5 20.Ne2 Ng8 21.Nxd7 Qxd7 22.Rf3 Bg7 23.a4 f5 Istratescu,A-Maze,S FRA-ch 87th Pau FRA 2012 (5) 1-0]

9...g5!? Exploring less charted territory. Kitty Kat: 'Exploring less charted territory. ' Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. Kitty Kat: 'Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.'

[9...a4]

10.dxc5!N Kitty Kat: 'N' Kitty Kat: 'White is slightly better.'

[Vorgänger: 10.h3 h5 Grgantov,M (1893)-Cubric,A (1797) CRO-chT U16 Crikvenica 2021 (4.1) ½-½]

[10.a4 h5]

10...g4 11.Nd4 Kitty Kat: ' Strongly threatening Bd3-b5.' **11...Ndxe5 12.Bb5** Kitty Kat: ' And now f2-f4 would win.' **12...Bd7 13.f4?!** -0.12/20

[13.Bxc6 0.25/24 Kitty Kat: ' was preferrable.' Nxc6! *(13...bxc6 14.b4)* 14.Qxg4 *(14.Nxc6 Bxc6 15.Qxg4 h5)* 14...e5 15.Nxc6 Bxg4 16.Nxd8 Kxd8∞]

13...gxf3? 1.16/20

[13...Nxd4! -0.12/20 Kitty Kat: '=' Kitty Kat: ' keeps the balance.' 14.Bxd7+ Nxd7 15.cxd4 f5! 16.Qe2 Kf7 17.Re1 Ra6 and Black has closed lines to his well-protected king and remained with the better pieces.]

14.N2xf3 Kitty Kat: '±' **14...Bxc5?!**

[14...Ng6 15.Kh1 e5 16.Nc2±]

15.Bxc6 Nxc6 16.Ng5! The kingside can't be protected. **16...Ne5** 2.80/22

[16...Qb6 1.62/20 Kitty Kat: '⩲' 17.Nxf7 Nxd4 18.Nxh8! Nb3+ 19.Kh1 Nxa1? 20.Bg5!+-]

17.Bf4!?

[17.Qe2! is killing, since f6 18.Qh5+ Ke7 19.Ngxe6 Bxe6 20.Rxf6! finishes Black.]

17...Rg8! 18.Qh5!? 0.92/20

[Kitty Kat: ' White should play' 18.Ngxe6! 1.74/23 Kitty Kat: '+-' Bxe6 *(18...fxe6 19.Bxe5)* 19.Bxe5]

[18.Nxh7 Ng4=]

18...Qf6 19.Nxh7 Qg7 20.Bg5? -0.47/22

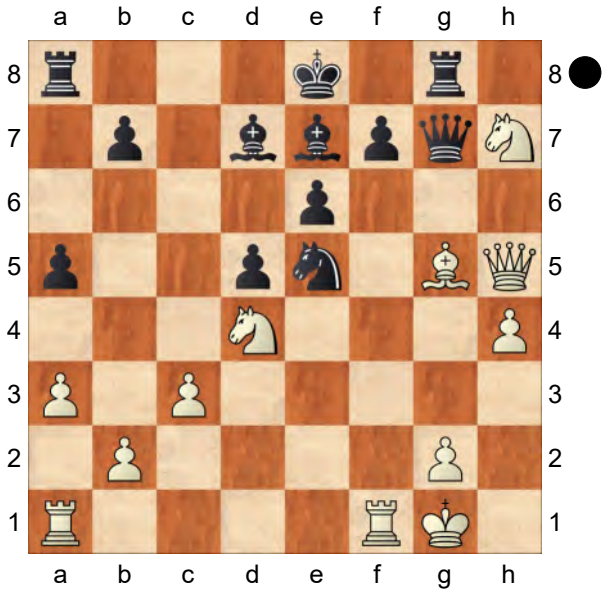
[20.Bg3!± Rh8 21.Bxe5 *(21.Qxe5 Qxe5 22.Bxe5 Rxh7=)* 21...Qxh7 22.Qf3]

[20.Bxe5? Qxg2#]

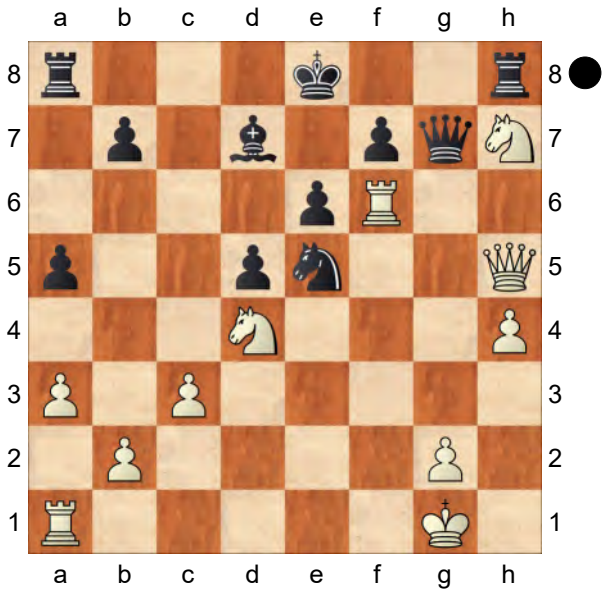
20...Be7! Kitty Kat: '⟶' Kitty Kat: ' Black has some attack. Dancing on a razor blade.' **21.h4??** -2.33/23 Kitty Kat: '

[21.Nf3! -0.66/22 Kitty Kat: ' ∓!' Nxf3+ *(21...Bxg5 22.Nfxg5)* 22.Rxf3 Rh8! 23.Bxe7 Kitty Kat: ' ∓' Kxe7 24.Qh4+ Kd6! 25.Qf4+ e5 26.Qf6+ Qxf6 27.Nxf6 *(27.Rxf6+ Ke7 28.Rh6*

Bf5!) 27...Be6∓]



' **21...Rh8** Kitty Kat: '-+!' **22.Bf6** -3.95/26
[⌓22.Bxe7 -2.67/21 Kxe7 *(22...Qxh7? 23.Qxe5 Kxe7 24.Nf5+ Kd8 25.Nd6+-)* 23.Qg5+ Qxg5 24.Nxg5]
22...Bxf6 23.Rxf6 Kitty Kat: '

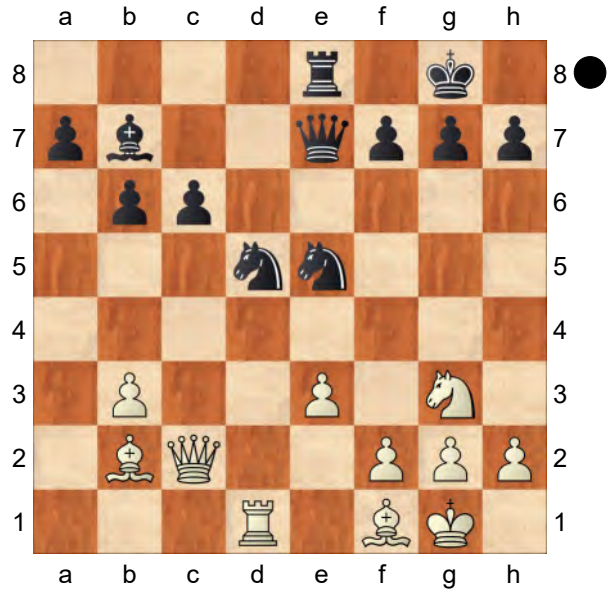


' **23...Ng6**
[23...Qxh7 24.Qxe5 Qxh4 25.Nf5 Qh1+ 26.Kf2 Qxa1 27.Rxf7 Qxb2+ 28.Kf3 Qxa3 *(28...Kxf7 29.Qg7+ Ke8 30.Qe7#)* 29.Qxh8+ *(29.Nd6+ Qxd6* Remove Defender *30.Qxd6 Kxf7∓)* 29...Kxf7 30.Qh5+ Kf8 *(30...Kf6 31.Qh6+ Kf7 32.Qh5+ Kf6 33.Qh6+ Kf7 34.Qh5+=)* 31.Qh8+ Kf7 32.Qh5+ Kf6 33.Qh6+ Kf7 *(33...Kxf5 34.g4+ Ke5 35.Qf4#)* 34.Qh5+=]
24.Raf1 Kitty Kat: ' Threatens to win with Rf6xf7.' **24...Qxh7 25.Qg5 Qxh4**
[Not 25...Nxh4 26.Rxf7 Qxf7 27.Rxf7 Kxf7 28.Qf4+ Nf5 29.Nf3-+]
26.Rxg6 fxg6 27.Qxg6+ Kd8 28.Rf7 -7.05/20
[⌓28.Nf3 -4.75/14 Qf4 29.Qd3]
28...Kc8 Kitty Kat: ' aiming for ...Qh4-e1+.' **29.Nf3 Qh6** 0.00/20
[Better is 29...Qd8-+ -4.71/20 30.Qg7 Qb6+ 31.Nd4 Rd8 *(31...Qd8 32.Rxd7 Qxd7 33.Qxh8+ Qd8 34.Qh3∓)*]
30.Qg3 -7.82/19 Kitty Kat: '?'
[30.Qxh6= 0.00/20 Rxh6 31.Rf8+ Kc7 32.Rxa8]
30...Qe3+ Kitty Kat: '
Weighted Error Value: White=0.71/ Black=0.60'
0-1

D45
□ **Giri,Anish** **2745**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2762**
Warsaw Superbet Blitz (1) 11.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

D45: Semi-Slav: 5 e3
1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 c6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.b3 0-0 8.Be2 b6 9.0-0 Bb7 10.Bb2 Qe7 11.Rad1 Rad8 12.Rfe1 Rfe8 13.Bf1 e5 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nd4 White has an edge. is cutting edge theory. ist die Avantgarde der Theorie. **15...dxc4**

16.Nf5 Qe6 17.Nxd6 Rxd6 18.Rxd6 Qxd6 19.Rd1 cxb3 20.axb3 Qe7 21.Ne4 Nd5 22.Ng3



aiming for e3-e4. White has compensation. **22...Bc8! 23.e4 Nb4N** Excellent horsemanship.

[23...Nf4 24.Qc3 Qg5 25.Bc1 h5 26.Ne2 Qxg2+ 7.Bd3 Qh5 8. 00-Komliakov,V (ol) 121/114 2014]

24.Qc3 f6! 25.h3N

[Vorgänger: 25.f4 Nf7 26.Bc4 a5 27.h3 -0.44/25 *(27.Qe3= 0.00/22)* 27...b5 0.07/21 *(*Better is *27...Be6!∓ -0.44/25)* 28.Be2= Rd8 29.Ra1 Nd6 30.Qc5 Qe6 0.58/22 *(30...Re8= 0.00/19)* 31.Rd1!± Threatens to win with Kg1-h2. Qxb3? 5.12/20 *(31...Qe7± 0.78/18* is a better chance. *)* 32.Rxd6+- Rxd6 33.Qxd6 Intending Qd6-d8+ and mate. Qxg3 Suleymanli,A (2552)-Zawadzka,J (2391) EU-ch 23rd Vrnjacka Banja 2023 (3) 1-0]

25...c5 26.f4 Nec6 27.Qe3 -0.52/21

[27.Qf3= -0.14/23]

27...Nc2 28.Qf2 N2d4 White should prevent ...Re8-d8. **29.f5** -0.89/24

[29.b4!= -0.08/20]

29...Rd8

[29...Nxb3? 30.Bc4+ Kf8 31.Bxb3+-]

30.Bc4+ Kh8 31.Bd5 Ne5 0.17/23

[31...Nb4∓ -0.91/22 32.Bxd4 cxd4 33.Rxd4 Nxd5 34.exd5 Bb7]

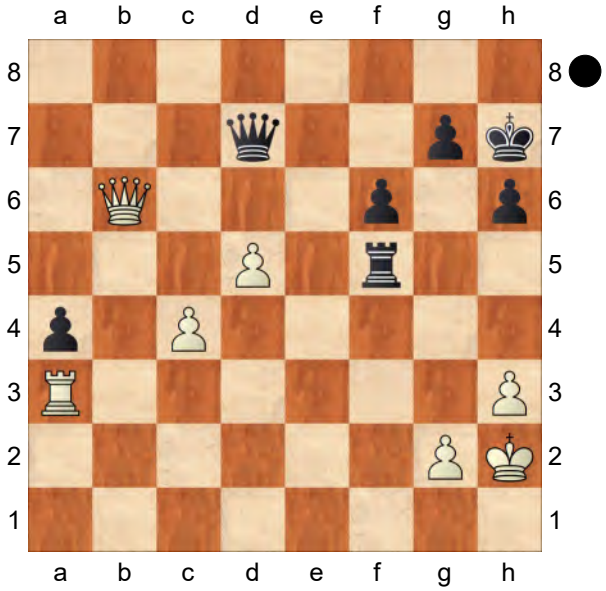
32.Bxd4= cxd4 33.Qxd4 Bb7 34.Nf1 -0.25/24

[34.Nh5 0.17/24 should be considered.]

34...Qd6 35.Ne3 h6 36.Nc4 Nxc4 37.bxc4 Bxd5 38.exd5 Endgame. KQR-KQR **38...Re8 39.Qf2 Re4 40.Rd4 Re5 41.Rg4 Qd7 42.Rf4 Qe7 43.Kh2 Re2 44.Qg3 a5 45.Rf3 Re5 46.Rb3 Qc7**

[Don't play 46...Rxf5 47.d6 *(47.Rxb6 Qe4=)* 47...Qd8 48.Rd3±]

47.Qf4 a4 48.Ra3 Qd7 49.Qg3 Rxf5 50.Qb8+ Kh7 51.Qxb6



Black must now prevent d5-d6. **51...Qe7** 2.43/24

[51...Rf4= 0.04/26]

52.Qe6? 0.00/33

[52.Rxa4? is the wrong capture. Qe5+ 53.Kh1 *(53.Kg1* gets mated. *Qe1+ 54.Kh2 Rf1)* 53...Rf1+-+]

[52.Re3+- 2.43/24 Re5 53.d6]

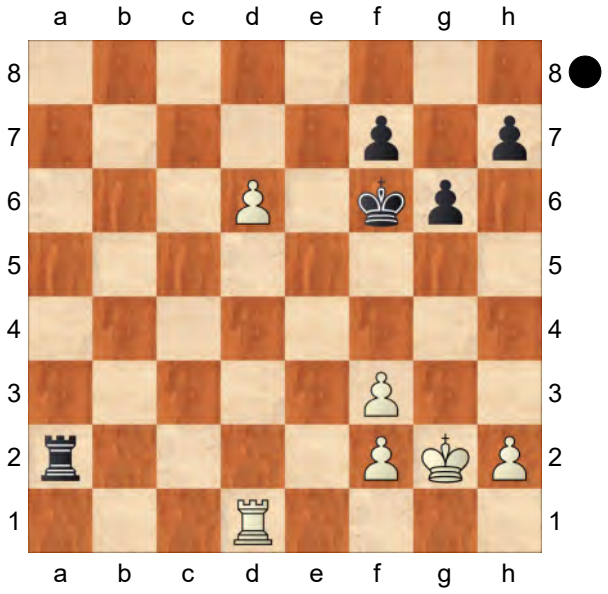
52...Qxe6 The position is equal. **53.dxe6** KR-KR **53...Re5 54.Rxa4 Rxe6 55.c5 Rc6 56.Rc4 Kg6 57.g4 Kf7 58.Kg3 Ke6 59.Rc1 Kd5 60.Kf4 g6 61.Rd1+ Kxc5 62.h4 Ra6 63.Rd8 Rd6 64.Rh8 Rd4+ 65.Kg3 Rd3+ 66.Kg2 g5 67.Rxh6 gxh4 68.Rxf6 Rg3+ 69.Kh2 Rxg4 70.Kh3 Rd4 71.Rf5+ Rd5 72.Rxd5+ Kxd5 73.Kxh4**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.16 (very precise)
½-½

D85

□ **Deac,Bogdan Daniel** **2680**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2761**
Jermuk Avagyan Memorial (7) 16.06.24
[Kitty Kat]

D85: Exchange Grünfeld: Unusual White 7th moves and lines with 7 Nf3
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5 8.Bb5+ Nc6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Be3
[10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.Qc2 Qa5 12.a4 Bg4 13.Ne5 Bxe5 14.dxe5 Rfd8 15.h3 Be6 16.Bg5 Rd7 17.Rfd1 Rad8 18.Rxd7 Rxd7 19.Rd1 Rxd1+ 20.Qxd1 Qxc3 21.Bxe7 Qd4 22.Qc1 c4 23.Qh6 Qa1+ 24.Kh2 Qxe5+ Deschamps,Q (2628)-3.Bh4 Nh6! (2592) TOP 16 Guingamp FRA 2010 (4) ½-½]
10...Bg4 **11.Bxc6!** 11.Bxc6 scores better than 11.d5.11.Lxc6 punktet besser als 11.d5. **11...bxc6 12.Rc1**
[12.Qa4 Bxf3 13.gxf3 Qc8 14.e5 Qe6 15.Rfd1 f6 16.dxc5 Kh8 17.exf6 Rxf6 18.Qe4 Qf5 19.Qxf5 gxf5 20.Rd7 f4 21.Bd4 Rg6+ 22.Kf1 e5 23.Rxg7 Kxg7 24.Bxe5+ Kf7 25.Bxf4 Rf6 26.Be3 Rb8 12.g5 ♘d7 13.f5 ♘c5 11719 (1960)-C332) (2385) 65/353 Groningen 1995 (2.13) 1-0]
12...Rb8N
[12...Qa5 13.Qe2 *(13.Qc2 f5 14.exf5 Bxf3 15.gxf3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Qxf5 17.Qxf5 Rxf5 18.Rxc6 Ra5* Modern Exchange Variation-Modern Exchange 8.Bb5+ â *)* 13...Rfd8 14.Rfd1 Bxf3 15.gxf3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Bxd4 17.Bxd4 Rxd4 18.Rxd4 Qg5+ 19.Kf1 Qxc1+ Line-8.Bb5+ 2017]
13.Qa4 Bxf3 14.gxf3 cxd4N
[Vorgänger: 14...Qd7 0.46/20 14...e7-e5 0.00 15.Rb1 0.00/23 *(15.Kg2± 0.46/20)* 15...Rbc8 0.43/19 *(15...Rxb1= 0.00/23 16.Rxb1 Kh8)* 16.Kg2!± f5 0.87/24 *(16...cxd4!± 0.39/19* should be considered. *17.cxd4 Rc7)* 17.dxc5 Kh8 1.27/19 *(⌓17...Qe6 0.78/23)* 18.Rfd1± Qc7 19.f4 0.85/20 *(⌓19.exf5 1.25/20 gxf5 20.f4)* 19...fxe4 20.Qxe4 Rcd8 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 Vidyarthi,V (2402)-Preotu,R (2493) American op 57th 2022 (7) ½-½]
15.cxd4 e5 16.dxe5
[16.Qxa7 Qf6 *(16...exd4 17.Rfd1=)* 17.dxe5 Qxf3-+]
16...Bxe5 17.Rc5
[17.Rxc6 Qh4 18.f4 Qg4+ *(18...Bxf4 19.Bxf4 Qxf4 20.Rc3∓)* 19.Kh1 Bxf4 20.Bxf4 Qxf4∓]
17...Re8 18.Kg2
[Of course not 18.Rxc6 Qh4 19.Re1 Qxh2+ 20.Kf1 h5 21.Bxa7 Ra8∓ *(21...Qh1+ 22.Ke2±)*]
18...Qh4 19.Rh1 Bf4 20.Bxf4 Qxf4 21.Qxc6 Qd2 Wards off Rh1-d1 **22.Qa4** Threatening Rh1-b1! **22...Red8 23.Rhc1 a6** 0.59/22 **24.Qxa6** 0.07/23
[24.R1c2!± 0.59/22 Qe1 25.Qa5 *(25.Qxa6 Rb1=)* 25...Qxa5

26.Rxa5]
24...Rb2= The position is equal. **25.Rf1 Kg7 26.Qc4**
[26.Qa5 simplifies Rxa2 27.Qc3+ Qxc3 28.Rxc3 Re2 29.Rcc1]
26...Rd3
[26...Rxa2 simplifies 27.Qc3+ Qxc3 28.Rxc3 Re2]
27.Rd5 Rxd5 28.Qxd5 Qxd5 29.exd5 Rxa2 KR-KR **30.Rd1 Kf6 31.d6**

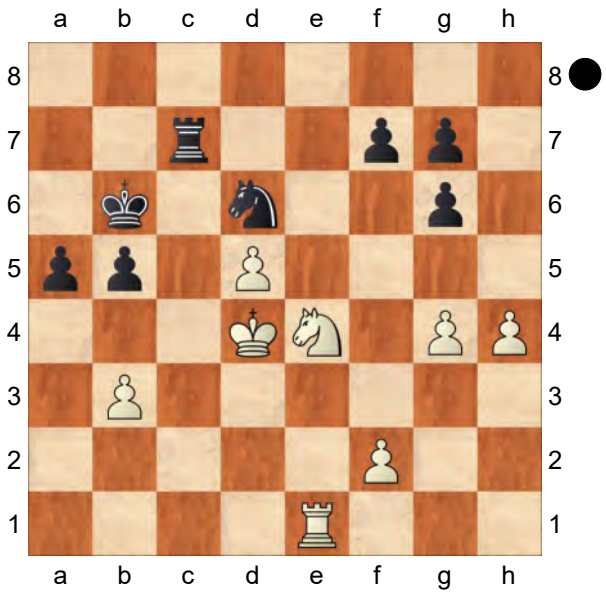


Strongly threatening d6-d7. **31...Ra8 32.Kg3 Ke6 33.Kf4** Hoping for d6-d7. **33...f6 34.Ke4** A balanced but interesting game.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.07 (flawless)
½-½

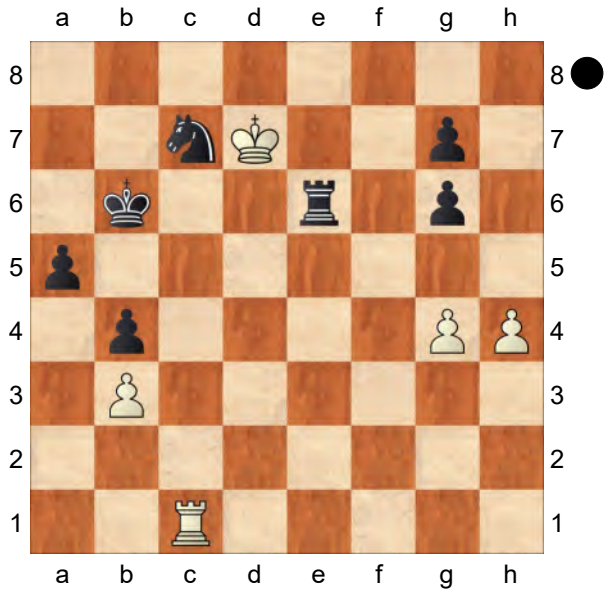
D35
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2762**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2734**
Warsaw Superbet Blitz (17) 12.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bf4 c6 6.Nc3 Bf5 7.e3 Nbd7 8.h3 is cutting edge theory. ist die Avantgarde der Theorie. **8...Bg6N** Leaves trodden paths.Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
[8...Be7 9.g4 Bg6 10.Nh4 Qb6 11.Qe2 Nf8 12.Nf5 Bxf5 13.gxf5 g6 14.h4 Qd8 15.0-0-0 Bd6 16.Qf3 Bxf4 17.Qxf4 N8d7 18.Be2 Qb8 19.Qg5 Qd6 20.fxg6 hxg6 21.h5 gxh5 22.Bxh5 Rxh5 23.Rxh5 Erigaisi,A (2778)-Dubov,D (2701) FIDE World Bl Team Final blitz 2024 (3.1) ½-½]
[8...Nb6 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Bd6 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bh4 g5 13.Bg3 Bxg3 14.fxg3 Qd6 15.Kf2 0-0-0 16.Ne5 Qe7 17.Rhb1 Nfd7 18.Qf5 Qf6 19.Qxf6 Nxf6 20.Nxf7 Ne4+ 21.Kg1 Nxg3 22.Nxh8 Rxh8 23.Kf2 15.h4 h6 16.g4 ♕c7 17.g5_15 (1366)-9.00 00 10.e3 ♘e4_66314 (1285) Indore op 1st 2023 (3) 1-0]
9.Nh4N
[Vorgänger: 9.Bd3 Be7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Bxg6 hxg6 12.a3 Nb6 13.b4 -0.40/20 *(13.Qb3=* 0.00/18) 13...Nh5 14.Bh2 Bd6 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 Perez,D (1796)-Alboredo,J (1820) South America-ch U20 Girls 2013 (8) 1-0]
9...Nh5 And now ...Nh5xf4 would win. The position is equal. **10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.Bh2 Nb6 12.Bd3 Bd6 13.Bxd6 Qxd6 14.Qc2 Nf6 15.0-0-0 0-0-0 16.Kb1 Kb8 17.h4 Qe7 18.g3 Ka8 19.Qb3 Ng4** 0.40/22
[19...Nc8= 0.04/20]
20.Rhf1 0.00/23
[20.Rd2± 0.40/22 deserves consideration.]
20...Nc8 21.e4 dxe4 22.Bxe4 Nf6 23.Rfe1 Qd7 24.d5 Strongly

threatening d5xc6. **24...Nxe4 25.Rxe4 c5 26.Rde1 Rhe8 27.Qa3** Black must now prevent Re4xe8! **27...Rxe4 28.Rxe4 Qf5** Hoping for ...Nc8-d6. **29.Qa5 b6 30.Qa4 Nd6** Pin **31.g4! Qd7**
[31...Qxf2 32.Qc6+ Nb7 *(32...Kb8? 33.Re7+-)* 33.a3+-]
[31...Qf6 is more complex. 32.Nb5 Nxb5 33.Qxb5 Rxd5 34.Qe8+ Rd8]
32.Qxd7 Rxd7= Endgame. KRN-KRN **33.Re3 Kb7 34.Kc2 b5 35.b3 Kb6 36.Kd3 c4+** 0.00/28
[36...b4!∓ -0.54/22 37.Na4+ Kb5]
37.Kd4 cxb3 38.axb3 a5 39.Re1 Rc7 40.Ne4? -3.90/25
[40.f3= 0.09/23]



Loses the game. **40...Re7!-+** ...Re7xe4+ is the strong threat. **41.f3** aiming for Re1-c1. **41...f5 42.Re3** -6.78/24
[42.Rc1 -3.73/22 fxe4 *(42...Nxe4 43.Rc6+ Kb7 44.fxe4=)* 43.fxe4 *(43.Rc6+ Kb7-+)*]
42...fxe4 43.fxe4 KRN-KR **43...b4** -3.59/19
[⌓43...Rxe4+ -7.37/22 44.Kd3 Rxe3+ *(44...Rxg4? 45.Kc3-+)* 45.Kxe3 a4 *(45...Kc5? 46.Kd3-+)* 46.bxa4 bxa4]
44.e5 Nb5+ Black is clearly winning. **45.Ke4 Kc5 46.e6 Nc3+ 47.Ke5 Nxd5 48.Re1 Nc7 49.Rc1+ Kb6 50.Kd6 Rxe6+ 51.Kd7**



Rf6! 52.g5
[52.Rc2 Rf7+]
52...Rf7+ 53.Kd6 Nb5+ 54.Ke6 Rc7 55.Rh1 Nd4+ 56.Kd5 Nxb3
Weighted Error Value: White=0.46/ Black=0.17 (very precise)
0-1

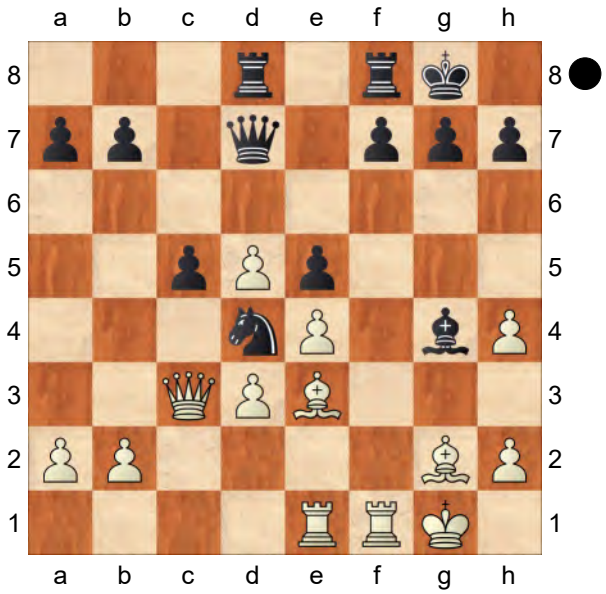
A09
□ **Daneshvar,Bardiya** **2598**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
Olympiad-45 Budapest (8.3) 19.09.2024
[Kitty Kat]

A09: Réti Opening: 1 Nf3 d5 2 c4
1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 c5 4.0-0 e6 5.c4 d4 6.d3 Nc6 7.e3 Nd7N 0.38/22
Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
[7...Be7= -0.01/23 8.exd4 cxd4 9.Na3 0-0 10.Nc2 a5 11.Re1 Re8

12.b3 Bf8 13.Bf4 Ng4 14.Bg5 f6 15.Bd2 Qb6 16.Qe2 Bd7 17.Reb1 Chapter-7.e3 Be7 2016]
[7...Bd6 8.exd4 cxd4 9.Bg5 *(9.Na3 0-0 10.Nc2 e5 11.b4 Re8 12.Re1 a6 13.c5 Bf8 14.Bg5 Bf5 15.Nh4 Bd7 16.a4 h6 17.Bxf6 Qxf6 18.a5 Rad8 19.Rb1 g5 20.Nf3 Bf5 21.Nd2 Bxd3 22.Ne4 Bxe4 23.Bxe4 Chapter-3...Nf6,e 2016)* 9...h6 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Nbd2 a5 12.Re1 Kf8 13.Re4 f5 14.Rh4 Qf6 15.Rh5 a4 16.Nh4 Bd7 17.Qe2 Kg7 18.f4 a3 19.b3 Rag8 20.Ndf3 Kf8 21.Rf1 b6 22.Kh1 10.♗e7 ♕e7 11.♘e2_7566 (2596)-8. ♗h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2641) FRA-chT Top 16 GP Haute 2005 (4.2) 0-1]

8.Na3N 0.00/22
[Vorgänger: 8.Re1 Be7 9.Na3 e5 10.Nc2 0-0 11.Rb1 Re8 0.71/24 *(11...a5=* -0.06/22 *)* 12.a3 0.27/24 *(*White should play *12.exd4±* 0.71/24 Hoping for d4-d5. *exd4 13.b4)* 12...a5 13.b3 0.01/23 *(13.exd4±* 0.40/23 should be considered. *exd4 14.b4)* 13...Nf8 14.exd4 exd4 Van Wely,L (2611)-Pichot,A (2630) Dubai bin Rashid Cup Rapid 2021 (2) 0-1]
[8.b4± 0.38/22 is more appropriate.]
8...e5= 9.Nh4 The position is equal. **9...dxe3 10.fxe3 Nf6! 11.Nb5 Bg4 12.Qb3 Qd7 13.Nc3 Rd8 14.Nd5 Be7 15.Bd2 0-0 16.Rae1 Be6 17.e4 Nd4!** Wards off Nh4-f5 **18.Qc3 Nxd5 19.cxd5 Bg4** aiming for ...Be7xh4. **20.Be3** -1.00/21
[White should try 20.Nf5∓ -0.32/22]
20...Bxh4∓ Black keeps a firm grip on the game. **21.gxh4**

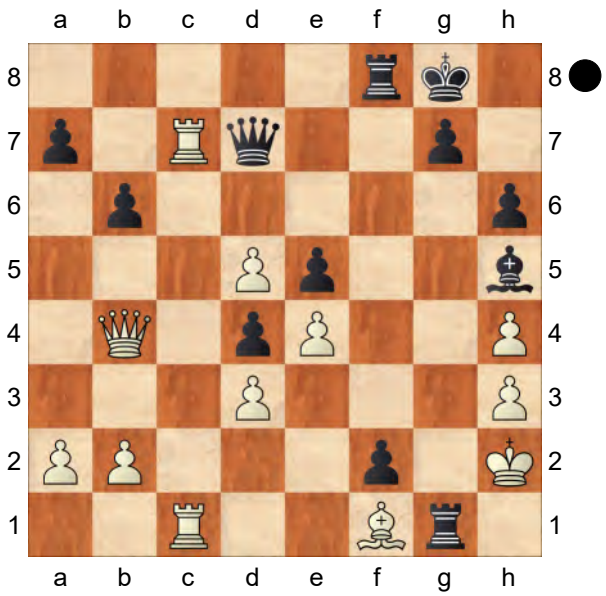
(Diagram)



f5! Black is more active.
[Not 21...Ne2+ 22.Rxe2 Bxe2 23.Rf2±]
22.Bxd4 -2.25/22
[22.exf5∓ -1.08/22 Ne2+ *(22...Rxf5 23.Rxf5 Bxf5 24.Bxd4=; 22...Nxf5 23.Bxc5 Rfe8 24.Qc4±; 22...Bxf5 23.Bxd4 cxd4 24.Qd2=)* 23.Rxe2 Bxe2 24.Re1]
22...cxd4-+ 23.Qc5 -4.35/22
[23.Qd2 -2.25/23 f4 24.Bf3]
23...f4 24.Rf2 b6 25.Qb4 -4.26/21
[25.Qc6 -2.54/18 was forced.]
25...f3 26.Bf1 Bh5 27.Kh1 Rf6 28.h3 Rc8 Prevents Re1-c1. **29.Qd2 Rg6** Wards off Qd2-g5 **30.Rc1 Rf8 31.Qb4 h6 32.Rfc2 f2 33.Rc7** -9.76/23
[⌓33.Kh2 -4.69/19 Qf7 34.Qxf8+ Qxf8 35.Rc8 Pin]
33...Rg1+ 34.Kh2

(Diagram)

Rxf1! Deflection **35.Rxd7**
[35.Rxf1 Qxc7]
35...Rxc1 36.Rd6
Weighted Error Value: White=0.75/



Black=0.15 (very precise)
0-1

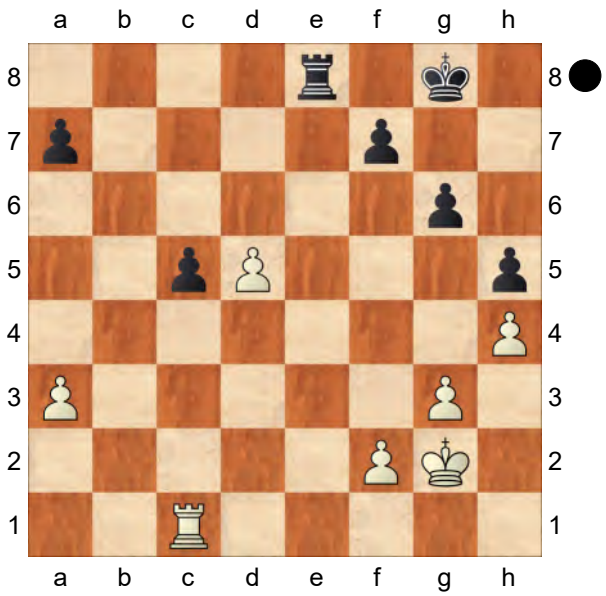
E46

□ **Giri,Anish** **2745**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2762**
Warsaw Superbet Rapid (2) 08.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

E46: Nimzo-Indian: Rubinstein: 4 e3 0-0 5 Ne2 without early Bd3
1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.d4 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd2 b6
[5...d5 6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 b6 8.Nf3 Ne4 9.Qc2 Ba6 10.Bd3 Nd7 11.Bxe4 dxe4 12.Nd2 f5 13.0-0-0 Bb7 14.f4 Nf6 15.Rhg1 b5 16.d5 exd5 17.g4 fxg4 18.cxb5 c5 19.bxc6 Bxc6 Giri,A (2762)-Erigaisi,A (2738) Shenzhen Longgang 5th 2024 (3) 0-1]
6.Bd3 d5 7.cxd5! 7.cxd5 is better than 7.Nf3. 7.cxd5 ist besser als 7.Sf3.
7...exd5 8.Rc1
[8.Nf3 Bb7 9.Rc1 Re8 10.Ne5 Bf8 11.f4 c5 12.Qf3 Nc6 13.Ne2 Ne4 14.Bxe4 dxe4 15.Qh3 Nxe5 16.fxe5 Ba6 17.Bc3 Rc8 18.Qg4 cxd4 19.exd4 b5 20.Qxe4 b4 21.Bd2 Rxc1+ 22.Bxc1 Qd7 Volkov,D (2246)-8.♘a4 ♕a5 9.c3 cd4 (2152) CUB corr Cuba 1993 (3.1) 1-0]
8...c5 9.Nge2 Ba6N
[9...c4 10.Bb1 Re8 11.0-0 Nc6 12.a3 Bxc3 13.Nxc3 Bg4 14.f3 Bh5 2) Rubinstein System 4.e3 O-O-Rubinstein System 4.e3 O-O 5.]
10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qa4 Nc7 12.dxc5 bxc5N
[Vorgänger: 12...Bxc5 13.b4 Bd6 14.Nd4 -0.34/21 *(14.0-0± 0.45/20)* 14...Qe8 0.15/22 *(14...Ne6∓ -0.34/21* was preferrable. *15.0-0 Nxd4 16.exd4 h6)* 15.Qb3 Be5 Somorai,Z (2079)-Mizik,T (2073) HUN-chT2 Barcza 1213 2012 (6.1) ½-½]
13.0-0 Ne6 14.Rfd1 Re8 15.a3 Bxc3 16.Bxc3 Ne4 17.Qc6 Nxc3 18.bxc3 Qa5 19.Ra1
[Much weaker is 19.Rxd5 Qxa3 20.Rdd1 Red8=]
19...Nc7 20.Nf4 Rac8 The position is equal. **21.Nxd5 Nxd5 22.Qxd5 Qxc3 23.Rdc1 Qa5 24.Ra2 Red8 25.Qc4 Rd2 26.Rxd2 Qxd2=** Endgame. KQR-KQR **27.g3 g6 28.Kg2 Qd7 29.h4 h5 30.e4 Re8 31.Qd5 Qxd5 32.exd5**

(Diagram)

aiming for Kg2-f3! KR-KR **32...Rc8 33.d6** And now Kg2-f3 would win. **33...Kg7 34.d7 Rd8 35.Rxc5 Rxd7 36.Ra5 Rc7 37.Ra6 Rb7 38.a4 Re7 39.a5 Kf8 40.Kf3 Kg7 41.Kf4 Kf8 42.f3 Kg7 43.g4 hxg4 44.fxg4 Rb7 45.h5 f6 46.g5 fxg5+ 47.Kxg5 gxh5 48.Kxh5 Kf7 49.Kg4 Ke8 50.Kf5 Kd7 51.Ke4 Kc7 52.Kd4 Rb5 53.Rxa7+ Kb8 54.Ra6 Kb7 55.Rb6+ Rxb6**



56.axb6 Kxb6
Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

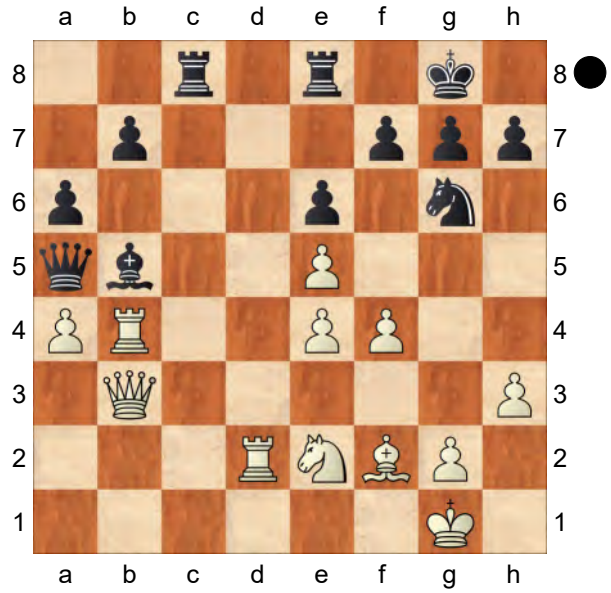
D13

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2756**
■ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2765**
Sigeman & Co 29th playoff2 (2) 03.05.24
[Kitty Kat]

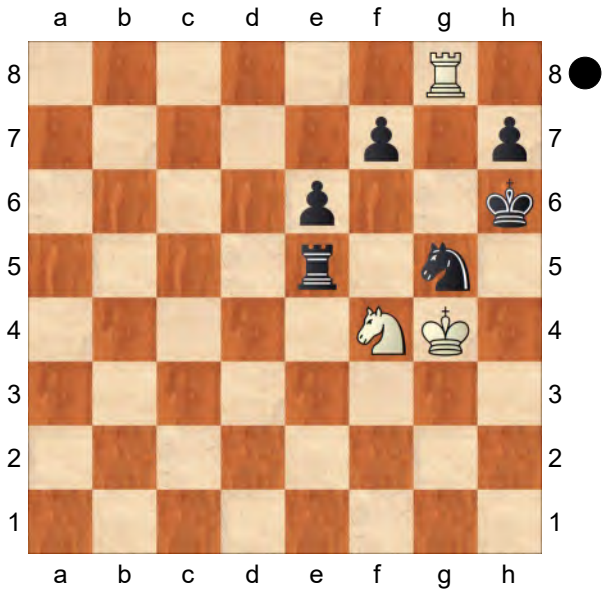
Although this was a blitz game, the level of the players suggested its inclusion. I was quite intrigued by the opening, and wondered how Abdusattorov got a bad position so quickly.
D13: Slav Defence: Exchange variation without ...Bf5
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Bf4 Nc6 7.Rc1
[This has been the most popular response, delaying 7.e3 because of Bg4! .]
[7.Ne5 is also interesting.]
7...e6
[Black's other moves are 7...Bf5]
[and 7...Nh5 , both of which have been covered here before.]
[7...Ne4 8.e3 Nxc3 9.bxc3 Bf5 10.Bd3 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 e6 12.0-0 Na5 13.e4 Be7 14.exd5 exd5 15.h4 0-0 16.Qf5 g6 17.Qh3 Qc8 18.Qg3 Re8 19.Rce1 Nc4 20.Bh6 Bd6 21.Qg5 Qf5 22.Qxf5 Semi-Slav 5.cxd5 (2615)-15. ♘c4 0-0 16. ♕e5 ♖ab8 (2660) 25th Festival Open A 2008 ½-½]
8.e3 Bd6N Looking to equalise by forcing through ...e6-e5.
[8...Be7 9.Ne5 Nxe5 10.dxe5 Ne4 11.Bd3 Nxc3 12.Rxc3 Bd7 13.0-0 Bc6 14.Qc2 Qd7 15.a3 h5 16.h3 g5 17.Bh2 f5 18.exf6 Bxf6 19.Rc5 Kf7 20.e4 Kg7 21.Rc1 Rhf8 22.e5 Be7 23.Rc3 6.♘a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2702)-3. ♘c3 g6 4.h4 (2432) FIDE World CH 1996 (8) ½-½]
9.Bg3 White has a couple of alternatives here:
[a) 9.Bd3 Bxf4 10.exf4 0-0 11.0-0 Bd7 12.Qe2 Rc8 13.Rfd1 b5 14.Qe3 Qb6 15.h3 Rc7 16.Bb1 Rfc8 17.Ne5 Ne7 showed a solid set-up for Black in Bok,B (2619)-Cori,J (2654) Online Olym Div Top-D Chess.com INT rapid 2021.]
[b) The classic idea of 9.Ne5 is reasonably met by 0-0 10.Bd3 Bxe5 11.Bxe5 *(11.dxe5 Nd7 12.0-0 Ndxe5 13.Bxe5 Nxe5 14.Bxh7+ Kxh7 15.Qh5+ Kg8 16.Qxe5 Bd7* â-â Rausis,I (2466)-Burmakin,V (2564) Cappelle op 18th Cappelle la Grande 2002 (3) was OK for Black in) 11...Nxe5 12.dxe5 Nd7 13.f4 Qb6 14.Qd2 Nc5 15.Bb1 Bd7 16.Ne2 Rac8 â-â Nguyen,T (2577)-Cori,J (2655) FIDE Grand Swiss Riga 2021 (4) left White with nothing special in]
9...0-0 9...Bxg3 is vanishing.9...Lxg3

scheint zu verschwinden.
[This has been taking over from the older 9...Bxg3 10.hxg3 Qd6 . One of my engines is then suggesting 11.Rh4 followed by 12.g4 suggesting that this is better for White. Could this possibly be the reason for delaying the capture on g3?]
10.Bd3 Re8 11.Ne5
[It's now or never, 11.0-0 0.42/19 11.Nf3-e5 0.80 Bxg3 12.fxg3 -0.07/21 *(12.hxg3± 0.38/25* feels stronger. *g6 13.Qd2)* 12...e5 would fully equalise for Black.]
11...Bxe5 12.dxe5 Nd7 13.f4 White is better. **13...Nf8** Defending the kingside, but Black's set-up is very passive.
[The most popular choice is 13...f5 1.41/21 13...Qd8-b6 0.94 , but then 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.0-0 Qb6 16.Qe2 0.85/22 *(⌓16.Bf2! 1.57/20)* 16...Nb4 1.55/20 was played in Andreikin,D (2555)-Movsesian,S (2670) Chigorin Memorial-A 15th St Petersburg 2007, but this looks better for White because of his two bishops and better pawn structure. *(*Black should play *16...e5* 0.85/22 *)*]
14.0-0 Bd7N Officially the new move, though the only precedent was not played by high rated players.
[Vorgänger: 14...Qb6 15.Qe2 Nb4 16.Bb1 Bd7 17.a3 Nc6 18.f5 0.99/23 *(⌓18.Bf2* 1.38/21 *)* 18...exf5± 19.Nxd5 Qa5 20.Rfd1 0.58/20 *(20.e4±* 0.99/22 *)* 20...Be6 1.38/19 Sang,R (1971)-Muchugu,C (1423) KEN-ch Nairobi 2021 (1) 1-0 *(20...Rac8!±* 0.58/20 *)*]
15.e4! 0.91/22
[⌓15.h3 1.28/21]
15...d4± 16.Ne2 Nb4 17.Rf3
[17.Nxd4 Nxd3 18.Qxd3 Bb5-+]
17...Qb6 2.35/23
[17...Nxa2 18.Rc4 a5 1.40/21 *(⌓18...Qb6* 0.76/22 *)* 19.Rxd4 looks very good for White.]
[17...Nxa2± 0.87/25 18.Rc4 Bb5]
18.Bf2 1.14/26
[18.Qb3! , intending 19.a3, is possibly even stronger.]
[18.Qb3!+- 2.35/23 and the rest is easy.]
18...Nxd3 Discovered Attack **19.Rxd3**
[19.Bxd4 Nxb2 20.Bxb6 Nxd1 21.Rxd1 Bc6+-]
19...Qxb2 2.35/23 Making matters even worse.
[19...Rec8 was better, though Black's position is horrible in any case.]
[19...Rec8± 1.16/23 is a better defense.]
20.Rc2? 0.32/25 Missing a golden opportunity.
[20.Rb3! Qxa2 Strongly threatening ... Bd7-a4. 21.Ra1! wins the queen for inadequate compensation.]
[20.Bxd4 Qxa2 21.Ra1 Qc4=]
[20.Nxd4 Rac8 21.Rb1 Qxa2∓]
[20.Rb3!+- 2.35/23 Qxa2 21.Ra1 *(21.Nxd4? Ba4-+)*]
20...Qb6± 21.Rxd4 Bc6 0.82/18
[21...Bb5± 0.36/20]
22.Rcd2± White is still better, but it's not as good as winning Black's queen.
22...Qa5 23.h3 Rac8 24.Qb3? -0.91/21
[And here 24.Ng3 was a better try.]
[24.Ng3± 0.83/23 stays on course.]
24...Ng6 0.12/21
[24...Bxe4! would have been stronger.]
[24...Bxe4!∓ -0.91/21 ...Re8-d8 is the strong threat. 25.Qd1 Bd5]
25.Rb4 Bb5
[25...Bxe4? 26.Bb6 Bd5 27.Bxa5+-

(27.Qb2 Qxa2 28.Qxa2 Bxa2+-)]
26.a4? -1.25/28
[26.Be3= 0.04/21]



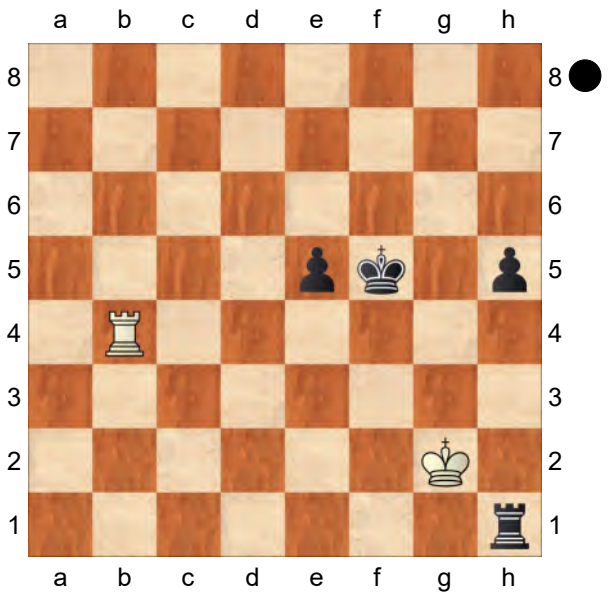
26...Bc4! -0.12/21 **27.Bb6= Qxb6+ 28.Rxb6 Bxb3 29.Rxb3 Rc4 30.Rd4** -0.81/28
[30.a5= -0.14/24]
30...Rxd4∓ 31.Nxd4 Nxf4 32.Rxb7 Endgame. KRN-KRN **32...g5** 0.00/28
[32...Rd8!∓ -0.74/26 Hoping for ...g7-g5! 33.Rb6 g5 *(33...Rxd4 34.Rb8+)*]
33.Rb6 -0.74/23 Allowing Black to activate his rook.
[33.Nc6 would have kept it out of the game a little longer.]
[33.Nc6= 0.00/28]
33...Rd8! 34.Rd6 -1.56/20
[⌓34.Nf3 -0.76/25]
34...Rb8 35.Rxa6? -3.48/21
[35.Nf3 -1.95/20 35.Kg1-f2 -1.57 was better. White could probably still have drawn, but Abdusattorov piles on massive pressure by playing with machine like accuracy. Very impressive.]
[35.Kf2∓ -1.58/21]
35...Rb2!-+ 36.a5 Rxg2+ 37.Kf1 Ra2 38.Ra8+ Kg7 39.Ra7 Kg6
[Not 39...Nxh3 40.Nxe6+ Kg6 41.Nf8+ Kg7 42.Ne6+ Kg6 43.Nf8+ Kg7 44.Ne6+=]
40.Ra8 Nxh3 41.a6 g4 42.Rg8+ Kh5 43.Ne2 Rxa6 44.Rg7 Ng5 45.Nf4+ Kh6 46.Rg8 Ra4 47.Kg2 Rxe4 48.Kg3 Rxe5 49.Kxg4

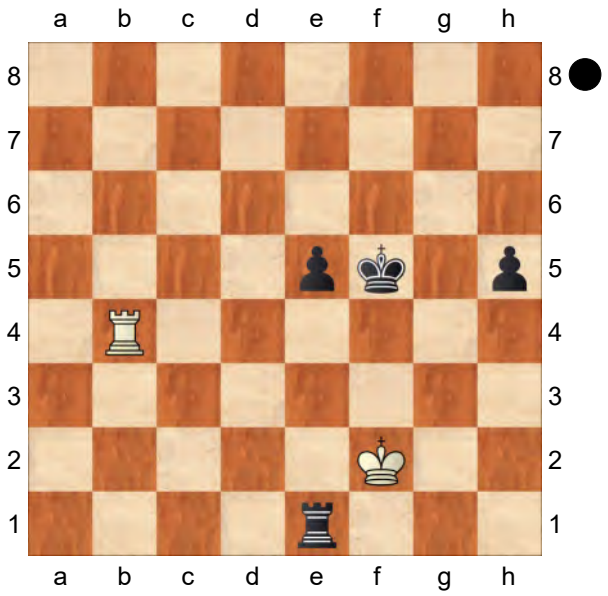


Re1! 50.Kg3 Rg1+ 51.Ng2 e5 White must now prevent ...f7-f5. **52.Re8 f6 53.Kf2 Ra1**
[53...Nh3+ 54.Kf3-+]
54.Rg8 Kh5 55.Ne3 Ra2+ 56.Kf1 Ra4 57.Nd5 Ra6 58.Ne3? -6.51/20
[58.Rf8 -3.93/17 Ne4 59.Rh8]
58...Kh4 Black is clearly winning.
[Weaker is 58...Ra1+ 59.Kf2-+]
59.Nd5 Kg3 60.Ke2 Kg4 61.Ne3+ Kf4 aiming for ...Ra6-a2+. **62.Nd5+ Ke4 63.Nxf6+** -7.96/20
[⌓63.Nc3+ -4.95/17 Kf5 64.Rh8]
63...Rxf6 64.Rxg5 KR-KR **64...Rh6** Dodges Rg5-h5 **65.Rg4+ Kf5 66.Ra4 Rh3 67.Kf2 h5 68.Rb4 Rh1 69.Kg2**

(Diagram)

Re1! 70.Kf2

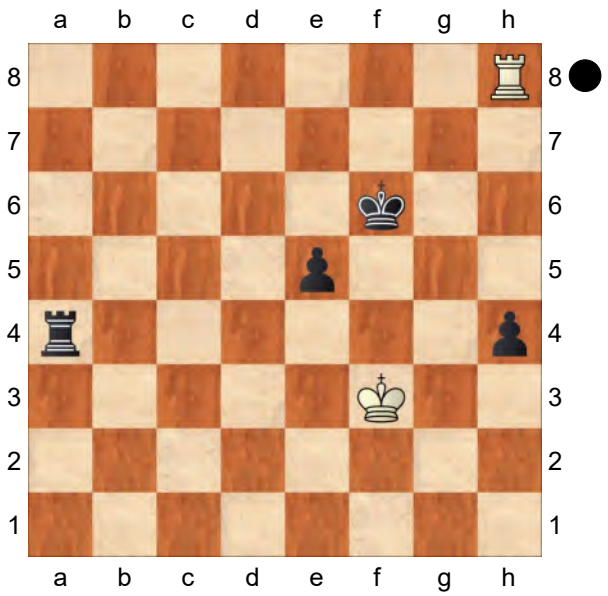




Re4! 71.Rb8 Rf4+ 72.Ke3 h4 73.Rf8+ Kg4 74.Rg8+ Kf5 Threatens to win with ...h4-h3. **75.Rf8+ Kg5 76.Rg8+ Kh6 77.Rh8+ Kg7 78.Rh5 Kf6 79.Rh8 Ra4 80.Kf3**

(Diagram)

h3! 81.Rh5
[81.Kg3 Ra3+]
81...Ra2 82.Ke4 h2 ...Kf6-g6 would now be deadly. **83.Rf5+ Kg6 84.Rf1 Kg5 85.Kxe5 Kg4 86.Ke4 Kg3**



Black used his chance.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/ Black=0.24 (precise)
0-1

D02
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2778**
■ **Puranik,Abhimanyu Sameer 2634**
Crunchlab PlayIn Match D2 rapid (1.1)
[Kitty Kat]

D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4
1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c3N
[3.e3 c6 *(3...c5 4.b3 Bg4 5.Be2 e6 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Bb2 Be7 8.Nbd2 0-0 9.c4 Rc8 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Rc1 Be7* D 04/01-N,N 2003*)* 4.Be2 Bg4 5.b3 Bxf3 6.Bxf3 e6 7.Bb2 Bd6 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.c4 Qe7 10.Nd2 0-0 11.Re1 Rad8 12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Bxe4 Nf6 15.Bd3 Ba3 16.Bc3 Bb4 17.Qd2 Bxc3 1.d4 d6/3. ♘f3 e4 4. ♘g5_41 (2303)-Van Heeren,A (1893) Prague International Open 2020 (3.37) 1-0]
[3.c4 c6 4.e3 e6 5.b3 Nbd7 6.Bd3

Bd6 7.Bb2 b6 8.0-0 Bb7 9.Nbd2 0-0 10.Ne5 Qc7 11.f4 c5 12.Qe1 cxd4 13.exd4 Bb4 14.a3 Bxd2 15.Qxd2 Ne4 16.Qe3 f6 17.Rac1 Qd8 Savchenko,B (2569)-Caruana,F (2620) 102/(304) Plovdiv 2008]

[3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 cxd4 5.Nxd4 e5 6.Nb3 Be6 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Bg5 Be7 9.Nc3 d4 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Ne4 Qb6 *(11...Bd5 12.e3 f5 13.Ned2 Bxg2 14.Kxg2* D 02/08-N,N 2003*)* 12.c3 f5 13.Ned2 0-0 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.e3 Nxb3 16.Nxb3 Bc4 17.Qf3 Bxf1 10.♗e2 ♗e6 11.0-0 (2426)-Bisguer,A (2278) Wichern op 5th 1999 (6.2) ½-½]

3...c6 4.Qc2 g6 5.Bf4 Bg7 6.e3 Bf5 7.Qb3 Qb6 8.h3 White is slightly better. **8...0-0 9.Nbd2 Ne4 10.Nxe4 Bxe4 11.Nd2 Bf5 12.g4 Be6 13.Be2 Nd7 14.h4 f5!?N** An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 14...Qxb3 15.axb3 c5 16.h5 Rfc8 17.Bg3 a6 18.f3 b5 19.Kf2 0.46/21 *(19.h6± 0.87/22 Bf6 20.Kf2)* 19...c4 1.91/21 *(19...cxd4± 0.46/21 20.exd4 b4)* 20.Ra5+- Nb6 21.hxg6 hxg6 Tabatabaei,M (2677)-Nguyen,N (2645) Airthings Masters Play In rapid 2023 (9) 1-0]

15.g5 Bf7 16.Nf3 Rfe8 17.h5 e5 18.dxe5

[18.Bxe5 simplifies Qxb3 19.axb3 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Bxe5 21.Nxe5 Rxe5 22.Kd2]

18...Nxe5 19.Nd4 0.00/21

[19.Nxe5± 0.53/24 Bxe5 20.Bxe5 Rxe5 21.Qxb6 axb6 22.Kd2]

19...Nc4 0.40/22

[19...Qc7!= 0.00/21]

20.0-0-0± c5 0.95/21

[20...Re7± 0.42/21]

21.Nb5 0.12/20

[21.Qxb6± 0.95/21 Nxb6 22.Nb5]

21...Ne5!= 22.hxg6

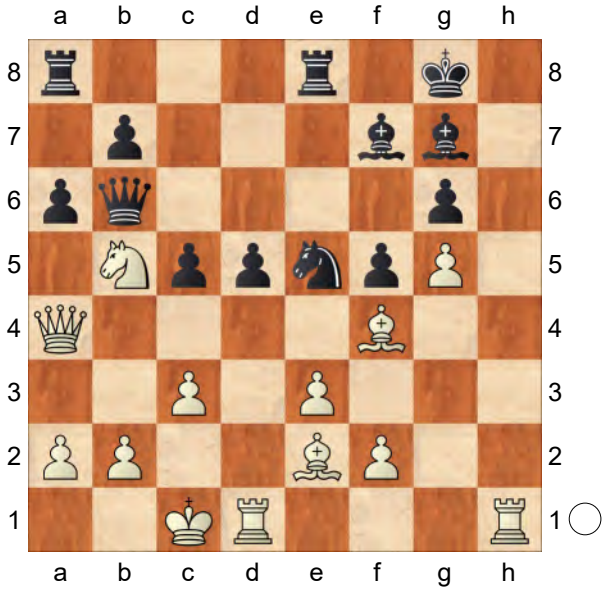
[22.Rxd5 a6 23.h6 Qc6∓]

22...hxg6 23.Qa4 -1.38/21

[Don't blunder 23.Rxd5? a6 24.Bxe5 Rxe5-+ *(24...Bxe5? 25.Bc4-+)*]

[23.Na3!= -0.13/19 keeps the balance.]

23...a6∓



White must now prevent ...Qb6-c6. **24.Na3 Rad8 25.Rh3** -2.26/19

[25.Rhe1∓ -0.99/19 might work better.]

25...Ng4↑ White is under strong pressure. **26.Bg3** -2.32/19

[⌓26.Rf3 -1.85/18]

26...d4 -1.31/16

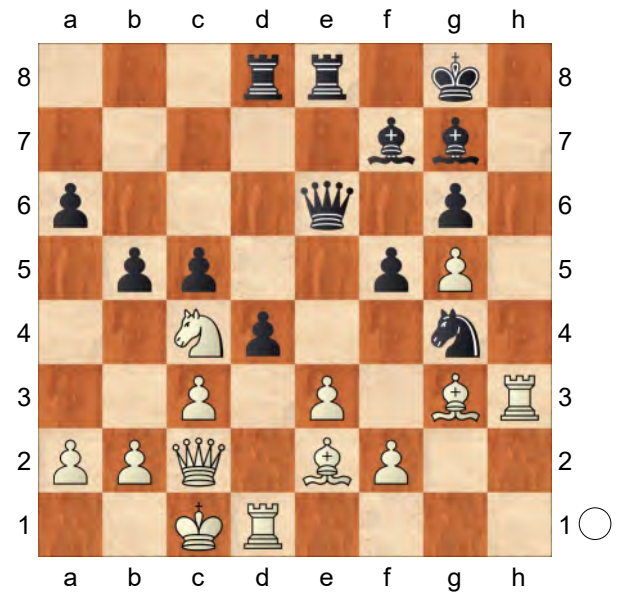
[Better is 26...Qe6-+ -2.32/19 ...b7-b5 is the strong threat. 27.Nc2 d4 28.cxd4 b5 *(28...Qxa2 29.Qxa2 Bxa2 30.dxc5=)*]

27.Nc4? -4.12/19 Now White is beyond hope.

[27.Bc4∓ -1.31/16]

27...Qe6 28.Qc2 Black is clearly winning. **28...b5**

(Diagram)



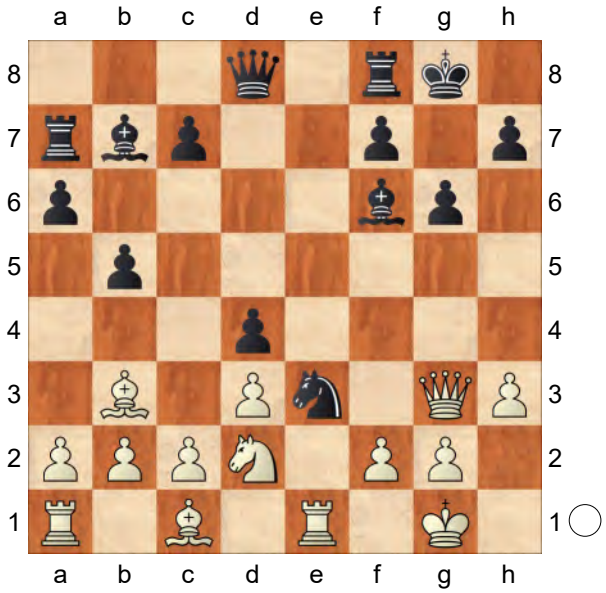
Deflection **29.Na3 Qxa2** ...d4xc3 would now be deadly. **30.Qb1 Qb3 31.cxd4 cxd4 32.Rd3 Rc8+ 33.Nc2 Qe6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.20 (precise)
0-1

		C88
□	**Erigaisi,Arjun**	**2756**
■	**Keymer,Vincent**	**2726**
Sigeman & Co 29th (5)		01.05.2024

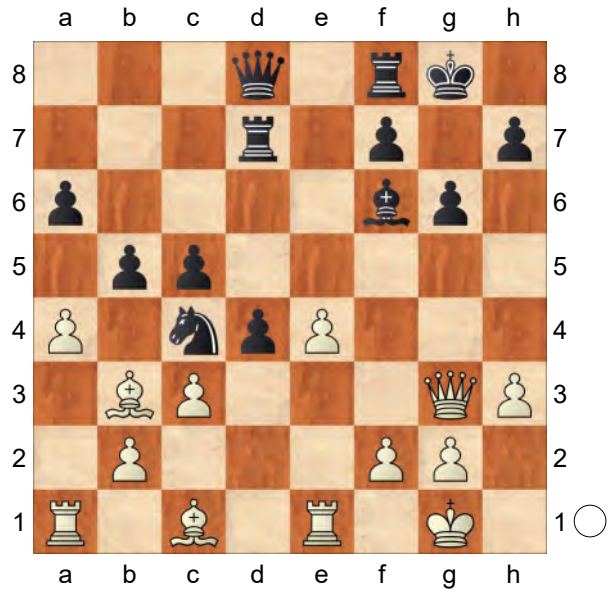
[Kitty Kat]

C88: Closed Ruy Lopez: Anti-Marshall Systems

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1
[6.d3 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.a3 0-0 9.Nc3 Be6 10.Nd5 Nd4 11.Nxd4 exd4 12.Nxf6+ Bxf6 13.Bxe6 fxe6 14.f4 c5 15.Qg4 Qd7 16.f5 Rae8 17.Bd2 c4 18.h3 c3 19.bxc3 d5 20.Bg5 Bxg5 10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5 7469 (2772)-Molina,R (2853) CCOL6 prel3-02 1965 (11) ½-½]
6...b5 7.Bb3 0-0N
[7...d6 8.d4 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 exd4 10.c3 dxc3 11.Nxc3 0-0 12.a4 Bb7 13.axb5 axb5 14.Rxa8 Bxa8 15.Bg5 b4 A8) RL – 8th Move Alternati-8th Move Alternatives – 8.]
8.h3 Bb7 9.d3 d5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nbd2 Nd4 White has an edge.
[11...Qd7 12.a4 Nf4 13.Ne4 Ng6 14.h4 Qg4 15.Bg5 Bxg5 16.hxg5 Rad8 17.axb5 axb5 18.g3 Bc8 19.Nfd2 Qh3 Erigaisi,A (2710)-Keymer,V (2690) Biel 56th 2023 (7) 1-0]
12.Nxd4 The position is equal. 12.c3 is a critical line.12.c3 ist die kritische Fortsetzung. **12...exd4 13.Qf3 Ra7N**
[Vorgänger: 13...Rb8 14.Ne4! c5 15.a4 Threatening a4xb5. Nf6 aiming for ...c5-c4! 16.axb5
A) 16...Nxe4!? 17.bxa6 *(17.dxe4 axb5 18.Bd5 Bxd5=)* 17...Nd2=;
B) 16...axb5 17.Bf4 Nxe4 18.Bxb8 Qxb8 19.Rxe4 Bf6 Moussard,J (2639)-Adams,M (2670) London Classic 13th 2023 (6) 0-1]
14.Qf5 g6 15.Qe5 Bf6 Repels Bb3xd5
16.Qg3 Ne3



Discovered Attack **17.Ne4 Bxe4 18.dxe4** Black should prevent e4-e5!
[18.fxe3? Bh4 19.Qe5 Bxe1-+]
18...c5 White must now prevent ...c5-c4!
19.c3
[19.fxe3 Bh4 20.Qf3 Bxe1∓]
19...Nc4 20.a4 a4xb5 would now be deadly. **20...Rd7**

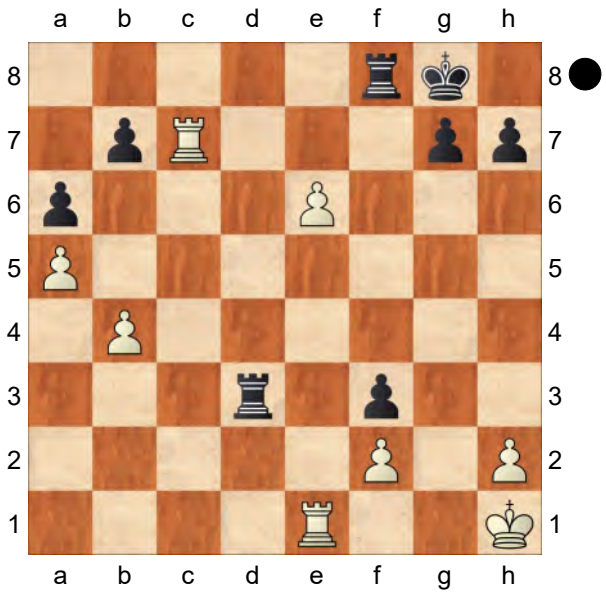


Threatens to win with ...d4xc3. **21.axb5 axb5 22.cxd4 Rxd4 23.Bxc4 Rxc4 24.e5 Re8 25.Bh6 Bg7 26.Bxg7 Kxg7 27.b3 Rd4 28.e6 Qd6**
[Don't play 28...fxe6?! 29.Qe5+ Kf7 30.Ra7+ *(30.Qxc5 Rd5±)* 30...Rd7 31.Qxc5 Rxa7 32.Qxa7+ Re7 33.Qe3±]
29.Qxd6 Rxd6= Endgame. KRR-KRR **30.Re5 Rdxe6**
[But not 30...fxe6?! 31.Rxc5 b4 32.Ra7+ Kf6 33.Rc4± *(33.Rxh7 Rd1+ 34.Kh2 Rd2±)*]
31.Rxc5 Re5 32.Rac1 Kf6 33.Kf1 h5 34.Rxe5 Rxe5 KR-KR **35.Rc6+ Re6 36.Rc5 Re5 37.Rc6+ Re6 38.Rc5 Re5 39.Rc6+ Re6** A balanced but interesting game.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.00 (flawless)
½-½

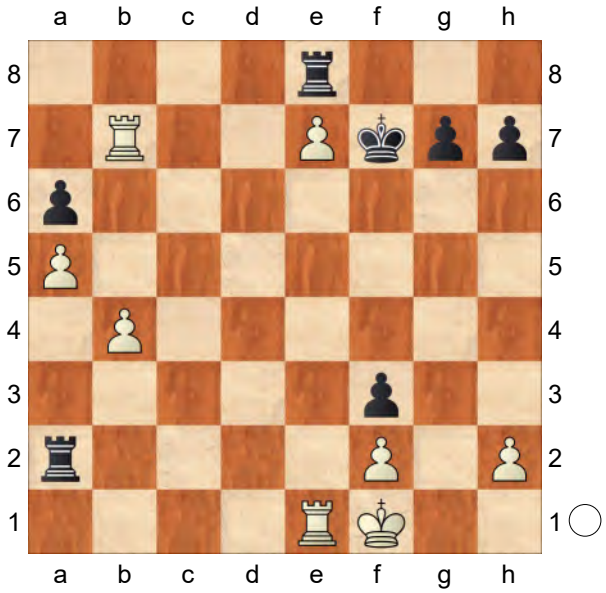
B33
□ **Paravyan,David 2608**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2778**
CrunchLab Masters Div 3 W rapid (3.3)
[Kitty Kat]

B33: Sicilian: Pelikan and Sveshnikov Variations
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.exd5 Nb8 9.a4 Be7 10.Be2 0-0 11.0-0 f5 12.b4!? -0.08/23 Leaves trodden paths.Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
[12.f4± 0.39/24 a6 13.Na3]
12...Nd7 13.a5 White has an edge. **13...a6** Repels c2-c4 **14.Na3 e4 15.Nc4 Ne5N**
[15...f4]
16.Nxe5 dxe5 17.Bb2 f4N
[Vorgänger: 17...Bd6 18.c4 Qg5! 19.Qc2 c4-c5 is the strong threat. f4! And now ...f4-f3 would win. 20.Qxe4 Bf5! 21.Qf3 e4! 22.Qh5 Qxh5 23.Bxh5 Threatens to win with c4-c5. Bxb4 24.Rfd1 Rac8 25.Be2 g5 26.h3 Rf7 27.Bd4 Bd6 28.Rac1 Hoping for c4-c5. Bc5 Cornel,M (2358) - Koch,C (2352) ST-2022-0-00217 ½-½]
18.Bxe5 f3! 19.gxf3 Bf6! 20.Qd4 -0.43/26
[20.Bxf6± 0.92/23 Rxf6 21.fxe4]
20...exf3 0.20/22
[20...Bh3!∓ -0.43/26 21.f4 Bxe5 22.Qxe5 Qh4]
21.Bd3!= Bxe5! 22.Qxe5 Black must now prevent Rf1-e1. **22...Bf5** 0.93/21
[22...Qh4!= 0.30/23 keeps the

balance.]
23.Kh1 0.38/20
[23.Bxf5 Qg5+ 24.Qg3 Qxf5= *(24...Qxg3+? 25.hxg3 Rxf5 26.Rfd1+-)*]
[23.Rad1± 0.93/21]
23...Bxd3± 24.cxd3 Qf6 25.Rfe1 Rad8
26.Rac1↑ White has some pressure.
26...Rd7 1.10/23
[26...Rf7± 0.61/20 is more appropriate.]
27.Rc5 0.72/21
[White should play 27.Qe6+ 1.10/23 Qxe6 28.dxe6 Rxd3 29.e7 *(29.Rc7 Re8±)*]
27...Qg6 1.10/21
[⌓27...Qxe5 0.72/21 28.Rxe5 Rb8]
28.Qe6+± Qxe6 29.dxe6 Rxd3
Endgame. KRR-KRR **30.Rc7**



Strongly threatening e6-e7! **30...Re8**
31.e7 White has more active pieces.
[31.Rxb7?! Rxe6 32.Rg1 Kf8=]
[31.h3 simplifies Rd6 32.Rxb7 Rdxe6 33.Rxe6 Rxe6 34.Rb6]
31...Rd2 32.Kg1
[Don't play 32.Rxb7 Re2 33.Rb1 R8xe7 34.Rxe7 Rxe7=]
32...Re2 33.Kf1 Kf7 0.46/30
[33...Ra2± 1.06/28 34.Rxb7 Kf7]
34.Rxb7± Ra2 1.50/24
[34...Rb2± 0.65/23]



35.h4 0.14/25
[35.h3!± 1.50/24]
35...h6 0.54/26
[35...h5= 0.14/25 might be stronger.]
36.h5 aiming for Rb7-b6. **36...g5?** 5.29/20 This move loses the game for Black.
[36...Rd2= 0.27/23]
37.hxg6++- Kxg6 38.Rb6+
Skewer, Double Attack **38...Kf7**
39.Rxh6 Re2 40.Rxe2
[40.Rxa6 leads to mate. Rh8 41.e8Q+ Rexe8 42.Ra7+ Kg6 43.Ra6+ Kf5]
40...fxe2+ 41.Kxe2 Rxe7+ 42.Kd3 Rb7 43.Rh7+ Skewer.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.51
1-0

E46
□ **Giri,Anish** **2762**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2738**
Shenzhen Longgang 5th (3) 02.03.2024
[John Emms,Kitty Kat]

E46: Nimzo-Indian: Rubinstein: 4 e3 0-0 5 Ne2 without early Bd3

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd2 d5 6.a3 Nepo has played this move a couple of times, and now Giri too.

[6.Nf3 b6

A) 7.a3 Bxc3 *(7...Bd6!?)* 8.Bxc3 would transpose to the game;

B) 7.cxd5 exd5 is the main line. 8.Bd3 Bb7 9.0-0 Bd6 10.Qb1 Re8 11.b4 a6 12.Rc1 Ne4 13.a4 Nxd2 14.Nxd2 g6 15.Bf1 Bazzano,S-Jongman,H corr WC39/ct/3 2019]

6...Bxc3N

[Previously we looked at 6...Be7 7.Nf3

A) 7...b6 8.cxd5 *(8.Bd3 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Bb7 10.0-0 Nbd7* 9) Nimzo Indian with 4.e3 and-6.a3 #3 *)* 8...exd5 9.b4 c5 10.bxc5 bxc5 Nimzo Indian Bd2 System-Nimzo-Indian 4.e3 5.Bd2 6.a3 11.dxc5 Bxc5 12.Be2 Nc6 9) Nimzo Indian with 4.e3 and-6.a3 #2;

B) 7...Nbd7 in Nepomniachtchi,I-Caruana,F/Saint Louis 2023.]

[6...Bd6 0.46/21 6...Bb4-e7 0.08 could be met by 7.c5 Be7 8.b4]

7.Bxc3 b6 8.Nf3 would transpose to the game

[8.b3 and]

[8.b4 are candidates as well, and both allow ...Ne4 to be met by Bb2.]

8...Ne4!? White has an edge.

[8...Bb7 has been Black's most popular choice here.]

9.Qc2 Ba6 Erigaisi's intention with ...Ne4 is to gain activity rather than forcing the knight-for-bishop exchange.

[After 9...Nxc3 10.Qxc3 White keeps a slight edge, e.g. dxc4 11.Bxc4 Bb7 12.Be2 Nd7 13.b4]

10.Bd3 Nd7 11.Bxe4!? Now it's Giri's turn to sharpen the position.

[11.cxd5 Bxd3 12.Qxd3 exd5 13.0-0]

[and 11.b4 are safer options.]

11...dxe4 12.Nd2 f5 13.0-0-0! Bb7 14.f4! An excellent move by Giri, which helps White in preparation for g2-g4. By clearing the second rank, the queen can reach the kingside more easily. In addition, further control of e5 is useful. Wards off Qd8-g5 **14...Nf6**

[14...c5 0.76/22 14...Qd8-h4 0.19 15.Nb3! Ba6 16.Qe2! cxd4 17.Nxd4 Qe8 1.47/22 *(Black should play 17...Qc8 0.86/21)* 18.g4! is very good for White. Here we can see how useful f4 is, as it prevents ...Ne5.]

15.Rhg1

[15.h3! might make g4 easier to achieve more quickly.]

15...b5! Erigaisi begins light-squared counterplay on the queenside. **16.d5!** Giri responds thematically.

[16.cxb5 -0.25/22 16.d4-d5 0.38 Qd7 would play into Black's hands.]

[16.cxb5 c6∓]

16...exd5 17.g4 -0.20/20 Now play becomes extremely sharp.

[17.cxb5 was the alternative.]

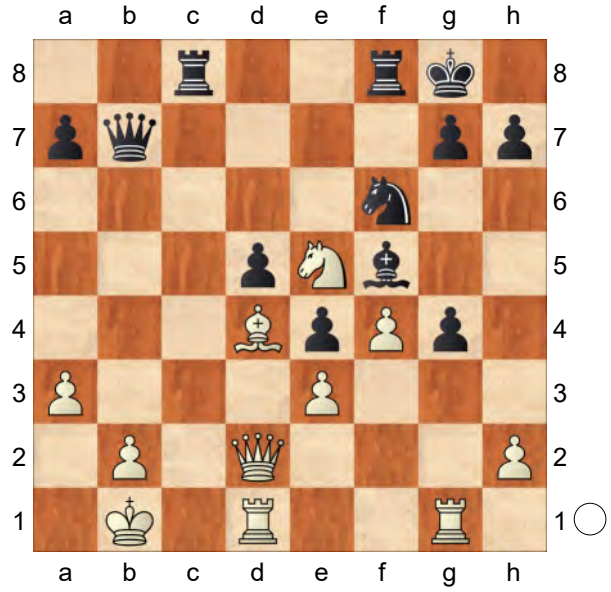
[17.cxb5 0.21/21 is more appropriate. Rc8 18.Nb3]

17...fxg4= 18.cxb5 c5!? 0.19/22

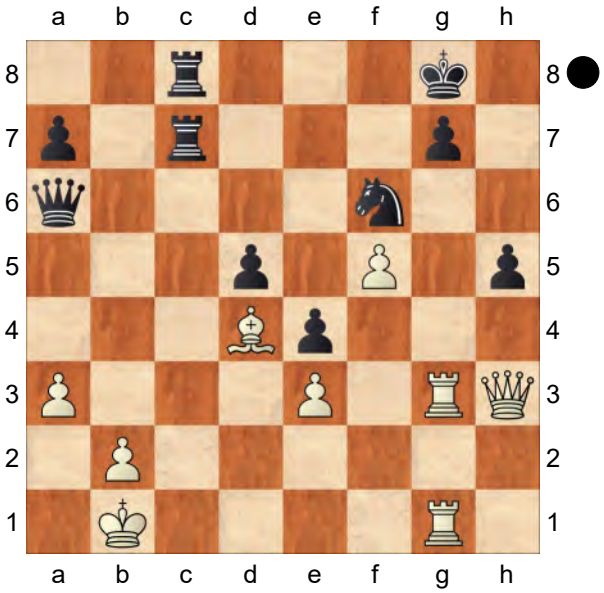
[18...Qe8!∓ -0.55/21]

19.bxc6

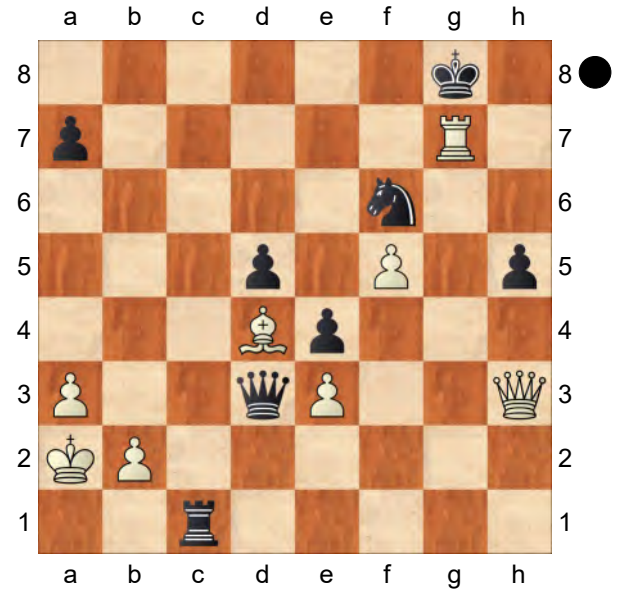
[19.Nc4!?]
19...Bxc6 ...Qd8-e8 is the strong threat. **20.Nc4! Rc8 21.Ne5 Bd7 22.Kb1 Bf5 23.Qd2** Black is a pawn ahead, but White activity, in particular the strong minor pieces, provide good compensation. **23...Qb6 24.Bd4 Qb7**



25.h3 -0.39/23 Giri throws more wood on the fire, sacrificing a second pawn to open the g-file. **25...gxh3∓ 26.Rg5 Ne8! 27.Rdg1! Rc7 28.Ng4** Threatening Nh6+. **28...Qa6** Against Ng4-h6+ **29.Qh2! Bxg4 30.R5xg4 Nf6! 31.R4g3 Rfc8** Erigaisi has defended a difficult position, and finally has some counterplay, with ...Qd3+ and ...Rc1+ ideas. **32.f5!** A nice resource from Giri, which opens the h2-b8 diagonal for the queen.
[32.Rxh3? -4.05/26 32.Qh2-h1 0.00 Qd3+! 33.Ka2 Rc1! and Black's attack beats White's.]
32...h5! Erigaisi prepares to block the g-file with ...Ng4. Hoping for ...Nf6-g4.
[32...Qd3+ 33.Ka2 Rc1? #4/21 no longer works. *(33...Ne8=* 0.17/24 *)* 34.Rxg7+ Kf8 *(34...Kh8 35.Rxh7+!)* 35.Qd6+ shows why 32 f5! was needed.]
[32...Rc1+ is possible, though. 33.Rxc1 Qd3+ 34.Rc2! Qd1+ 35.Ka2 Rxc2 36.Rxg7+! The only move. Kxg7 37.Qg3+! Kf7! 38.Qd6! Rc1 39.Qxf6+ Ke8 40.Qe6+ Kf8 41.Qd6+ Ke8 42.Qb8+ Kf7 43.Qxa7+ Ke8 44.Qb8+ with perpetual check.]
33.Qxh3 -3.65/36
[33.Rxh3 Rc1+ *(or 33...Qd3+ 34.Ka2 Rc1 35.Rxg7+! Kxg7 36.Qg3+ Kf8 37.Qd6+ Ke8 38.Qe6+ Kd8 39.Qxf6+ Kc7=)* 34.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 35.Kxc1 Qf1+ 36.Kd2 Qd3+ 37.Ke1 Qb1+ with perpetual check.]
[33.Bxf6 Qxf6 *(33...Rc1+ 34.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 35.Kxc1 Qf1+* leads to perpetual *)* 34.Qxh3 Black must now prevent Rg3-g6! Rb7=]
[33.Bxf6= 0.00/29 Rc1+ Decoy *(33...Qxf6? 34.Qxh3 Rb7 35.Qh2∓)* 34.Rxc1 Rxc1+ Remove Defender 35.Kxc1 Qf1+ 36.Kd2 Qd3+ 37.Ke1 Qb1+ 38.Kd2 Qd3+ 39.Kc1 *(39.Ke1 Qb1+ 40.Kd2 Qd3+=)* 39...Qf1+ 40.Kd2 Qd3+]



The first big mistake, and it proves to be fatal. There's more than one way to hold the balance here. **33...Rc1+!!-+** Now this works, as Black's mating threats are quicker than White's.
34.Rxc1 Qd3+ 35.Ka2 Rxc1 36.Rxg7+ -4.28/22
[36.Bxf6? Qc4+ 37.b3 Qc2+ 38.Bb2 Qb1#]
[36.Rg2 -2.99/22 is the only way for White. Qd1 37.b3 Rc2+ 38.Rxc2 Qxc2+ 39.Ka1 Qxb3 40.Bxf6 Qd1+ *(40...gxf6? 41.Qg3+ Kh8 42.Qg6-+; 40...Qxa3+? 41.Kb1-+)* 41.Kb2 gxf6 *(41...Qe2+? 42.Kb3-+)* 42.Qg3+ Qg4 43.Qb8+ Kh7 44.Kc3]



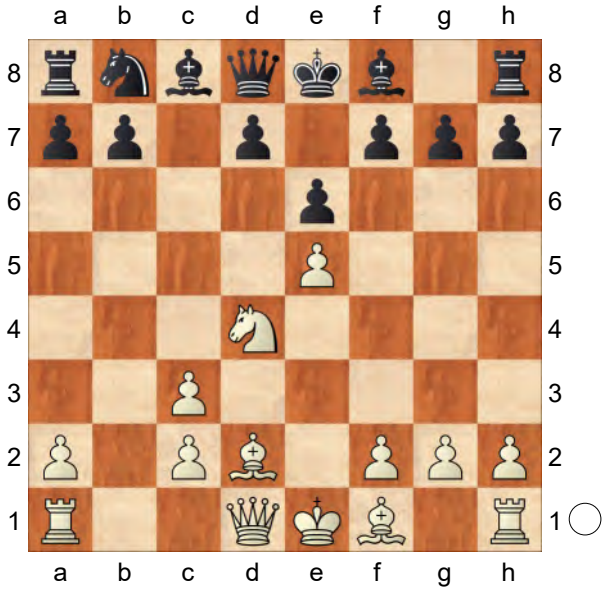
36...Kf8! Black is clearly winning.
[36...Kxg7 37.Qg3+ Kf8 38.Qd6+ Ke8 39.Qe6+ Kd8 40.Qxf6+ Kc7 41.Qf7+ *(41.Bxa7? Qc4+ 42.b3 Rc2+-+)* 41...Kc6 42.Qe6+ Kc7 43.Qe7+ *(43.Bxa7? Qc4+ 44.b3 Qe2#)* 43...Kc8 44.Qe6+ Kc7 45.Qe7+ *(45.Bxa7? Qc4+ 46.b3 Qe2#)* 45...Kc8 46.Qe8+ Kc7 47.a4 Qc4+ 48.b3=]
37.a4 -9.88/26
[37.Bxf6? Qc4+ 38.b3 Qc2+ 39.Bb2 Qb1#]
[⌓37.Rg2 -4.25/22 Qf1 38.b4 *(38.Bxf6? Ra1+ 39.Kb3 Qc4#)* 38...Rc2+ 39.Rxc2 Qxh3 40.Kb2]
37...Qd1
[37...Kxg7? perishes. 38.Qg3+ Kf8 39.Qd6+ Ke8 40.Qe6+ Kd8 41.Qxf6+ Kc8 42.Qf8+ Kb7 43.Qf7+ Rc7 44.Qxd5+ Kc8 45.f6+-]
38.b3 Rc2+
[Weaker is 38...Kxg7 39.Qg3+ Qg4 40.Qe5=]
39.Ka3 a5
Weighted Error Value: White=0.76/ Black=0.05 (flawless)
[Worse is 39...Kxg7 40.Qg3+ Qg4 41.Qe5=]
0-1

B40
□ **Short,Nigel D** **2594**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
FIDE World Rapid Team (12.7) 04.08.24
[Kitty Kat]

B40: Sicilian: 2...e6, Unusual lines
Zapata,A: 'Inf 47/(201)' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4**
[4.c3 dxc3 5.Nxc3 d6 6.Bc4 a6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Qe2 Nc6 9.Rd1 b5 10.Bb3 Ra7 11.Be3 Rd7 12.Na4 bxa4 13.Bxa4 Bb7 14.Rac1 Nb8 15.Ba7 Nf6 16.e5 Nd5 Alvarez,A-Zapata,A (2490) (ch) 47/(201) 1989]
4...Nf6
[4...Nc6 5.g3 Qb6 6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nc3 a6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.a4 Ne5 12.Bf4 d6 13.a5 Bd7 B 44/01 2001]
5.Nc3 Bb4N
[5...Nc6 6.g3 d5 7.exd5 exd5 8.Bg2

Bg4 9.Nde2 Bb4 10.h3 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Bf5 12.Rb1 Be4 13.f3 Bg6 14.Rxb7 0-0 15.0-0 Qa5 16.Bg5 Qxa2 17.Nf4 Rfd8 18.Qa1 Qc4 19.Rf2 Qc5 20.Nd3 Chapter-6.g3 2024]

6.e5 Nd5 7.Bd2 Nxc3 8.bxc3 Bf8



9.Bd3! **Na6!** now scores much better than the old 9...d6.punktet besser als das ältere 9...d6. **10.f4N** And now f4-f5 would win.

[Vorgänger: 10.0-0 Nc5 11.Re1 b6 12.Qg4 Threatens to win with Nd4-b5. h5! 13.Qf4 Bb7 14.a4 Be7 15.a5 bxa5 16.Nb3 Van Foreest,J (2679)-Erigaisi,A (2727) Gashimov Memorial Blitz 9th 2023 (15) 0-1]

10...Nc5 White is slightly better. **11.Qf3 g6 12.0-0** aiming for f4-f5! **12...Nxd3** 0.92/22

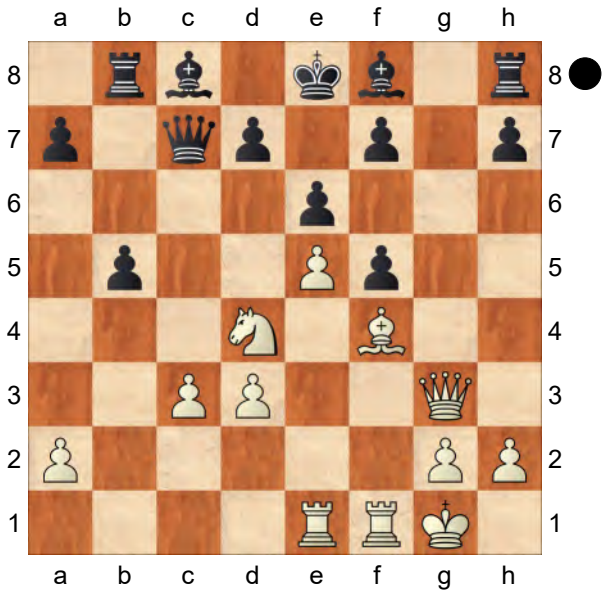
[12...d5± 0.53/20 was preferrable.]

13.cxd3± Rb8 14.Rae1 0.35/17

[White should play 14.Qg3± 0.87/22]

14...b5!± 15.Qg3 Qc7 16.f5 gxf5 17.Bf4

[17.Bg5!? h5 18.Nxf5 exf5 19.Rxf5∓]



Strongly threatening Nd4xf5! **17...Rb6 18.Nxf5 exf5 19.e6! d6!**

[19...Qxc3? 20.Be5 fxe6 21.Bxc3+-]

20.e7 -1.60/21 **Bxe7∓ 21.Qg7 Rf8** White must now prevent ...Bc8-e6. **22.Bg5?** -3.10/23 This costs White the game.

[22.g4∓ -1.47/19 Kd8 *(22...fxg4? too greedy. 23.Bg5+-)* 23.Re3]

22...Be6-+ 23.Rxf5 Re1xe6! is the strong threat. **23...Rb7**

[Inferior is 23...Bxf5 24.Rxe7+ Qxe7 25.Bxe7 Kxe7 26.Qg5+ Ke6 27.Qh6+ Ke7 28.Qg5+ Ke6 29.Qh6+ Ke7 30.Qg5+=]

24.Rf3 Qc5+ 25.Be3 Qe5

Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/ Black=0.04 (flawless)

0-1

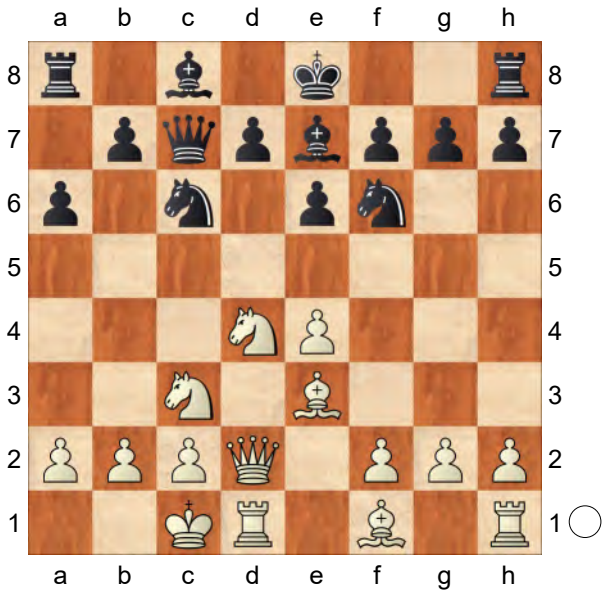
B48

□ **Yu,Yangyi** **2720**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2738**
Shenzhen Longgang 5th (5) 05.03.2024
[Roiz,M, Kitty Kat]

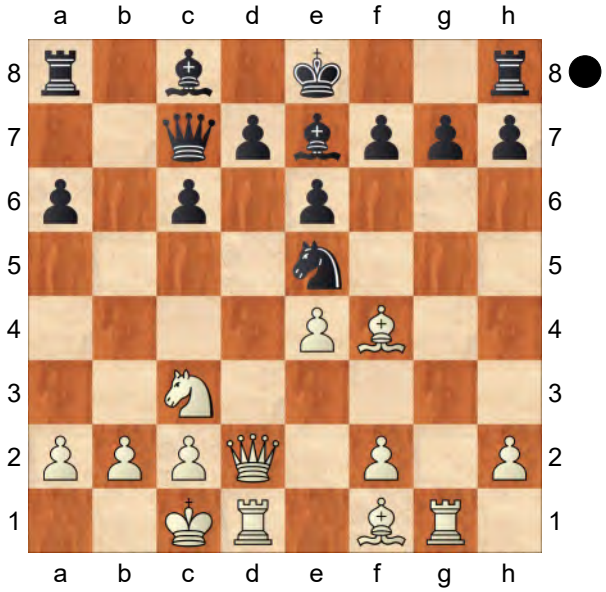
B48: Sicilian: Taimanov: 5 Nc3 Qc7 6 Be3 a6 without Be2
Zapata,Alonso: 'Zapata,A: 'Inf 47/(201)"
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
[4.c3 dxc3 5.Nxc3 d6 6.Bc4 a6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Qe2 Nc6 9.Rd1 b5 10.Bb3 Ra7 11.Be3 Rd7 12.Na4 bxa4 13.Bxa4 Bb7 14.Rac1 Nb8 15.Ba7 Nf6 16.e5 Nd5 Alvarez,A-Zapata,A (2490) (ch) 47/(201) 1989]
4...Nc6 5.Nc3N
[5.g3 Qb6 *(5...a6 6.Bg2 Nf6 7.0-0 Qc7 8.b3 Bc5 9.Ne2 b5 10.Bb2 e5 11.a4 b4 12.Nd2 a5 13.Nc4 Ba6 14.Qd3 0-0 15.Rad1 d6 16.Qf3 Bxc4 17.bxc4 Rab8 18.Qb3 Qb6 19.Nc1 Bd4 20.Bxd4* 6.d4 ♘ge7 7.♗e3 ♘g6-Krstevska,M Norfolk-Devon 1903 0-1 *)* 6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nc3 a6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.a4 Ne5 12.Bf4 d6 13.a5 Bd7 B 44/01-N,N 2001]
5...Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Qd2 Nf6 8.0-0-0 Be7!

(Diagram)

This move is almost equally likely as the main 8...Bb4 nowadays.is currently scoring better than 8...Bb4.wohl besser als 8...Lb4. **9.g4!?** -0.02/24
GM Yu, Yangyi often comes up with fresh, aggressive ideas in well-known positions. This pawn sacrifice is practically untested. **9...Nxg4=**
There was hardly any adequate alternative.



[For instance, after 9...b5 10.g5 Ng4 aiming for ...Ng4xe3. 11.Bf4 d6 12.Nxc6 Qxc6 13.Bxd6 Qxd6 14.Qxd6 Bxd6 15.Rxd6 Black struggles to regain the pawn because 15...Nxf2? 16.Rg1 leaves the knight trapped.]
10.Bf4 Nge5! The pin causes Black definite problems, but Arjun manages to maintain his extra pawn. The position is equal. **11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Rg1⇄**



White has counterplay **12...g5N**
This innovation is a certain improvement.

Decoy **13.Rxg5** Most likely this position was analyzed by both players somewhen before the game.

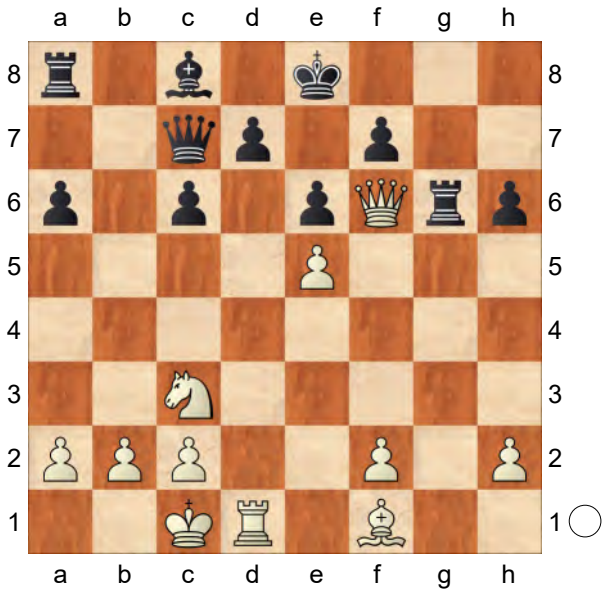
[Of course, not 13.Bxg5? -0.96/20 13.Rg1xg5 0.03 Nf3 14.Qe3 Nxg1 15.Bxe7 Kxe7 16.Qg5+ Ke8 17.Qxg1 Rb8∓ 0.00/22 White's compensation for the exchange is questionable. *(17...Bb7∓ -0.46/20)*]

[13.Bxg5 Nf3 14.Qe3 *(14.Bf4? e5-+)* 14...Nxg1∓]

13...Bxg5 14.Bxg5 Threatens to win with Bg5-f6. **14...Nf3!** It is necessary to exchange White's powerful bishop.

15.Qe3 Nxg5 16.Qxg5 d6 Another precise move by GM Erigaisi.

[16...h6? 0.60/20 16...d7-d6 -0.04 17.Qf6 Rg8 18.e5! Black must now prevent Nc3-e4! Rg6!



19.Qf4!±]

17.Qg3

[it makes little sense to play 17.Qg7 , since White has nothing better than Rf8 18.Qg3! anyways.]

17...e5 Black unblocks the diagonal for his bishop. White has to open the game.

18.f4!

[Of course not 18.Qg7 Rf8∓]

18...Qe7

[Somewhat safer seems 18...exf4!? 19.Qxf4 Rg8 20.Rxd6 Qe7! Inhibits Rd6-e6. Strongly threatening ... Rg8-g4. 21.Rxc6 Qg5⇄ The arising endgame looks fine for Black, although White has 2 pawns for an exchange.]

19.Qg7 White has compensation.

19...Rf8 20.f5 White grabs lots of space and threatens f5-f6.

[20.Qxh7? loses. Qf6 *(20...exf4 21.Qh6∓)* 21.Ne2 Bg4-+ *(21...exf4? 22.Qh5-+; 21...Rh8? 22.Rxd6-+)*]

20...f6!

[Too passive is 20...Bb7 21.f6! Qc7! 22.Bh3! Bc8 23.Bxc8 Rxc8 24.b3↑ White's long-term initiative outweighs Black's material advantage.]

21.Qg1 Rf7 A 'silent draw offer' that was actually accepted.

[Worthy of serious attention is 21...Qa7!? 22.Qg3 next Nc3-a4! is good for White. Bd7! Black shouldn't be too greedy. Leaving the danger zone is preferable. 23.Rxd6 Nc3-a4 would now be deadly. 0-0-0! 24.Qg7 Kb8 after ...Bc8 Black should be able to liquidate into an acceptable endgame.]

22.Qg8+ Rf8 23.Qg1 Rf7 24.Qg8+ GM YU, Yangyi decides to call it a day.

[It was possible to maintain the tension by means of 24.Bc4 Rg7 25.Qb6 Qc7 White hardly has anything special. 26.Qe3 Bb7 27.Be6⩲ White has full compensation, but hardly more.]

24...Rf8 25.Qg1 Not much happened in this game.

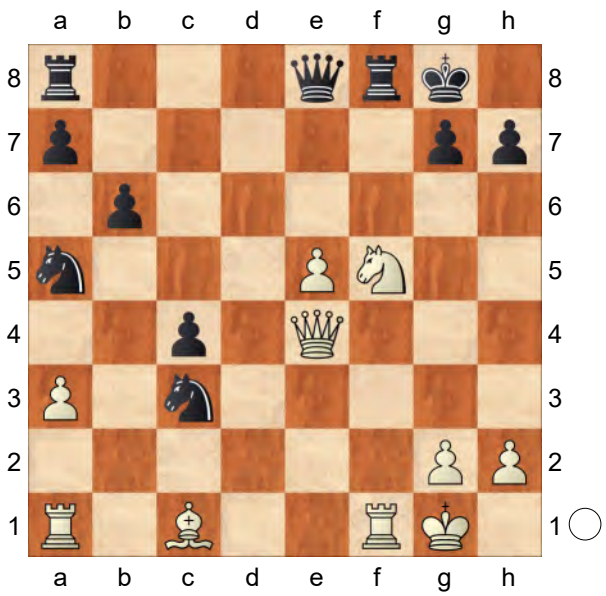
Weighted Error Value: White=0.03

(flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

E27

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Antipov,Mikhail Al** **2602**
CrunchLab Masters PlayIn rapid (9)
[Kitty Kat]

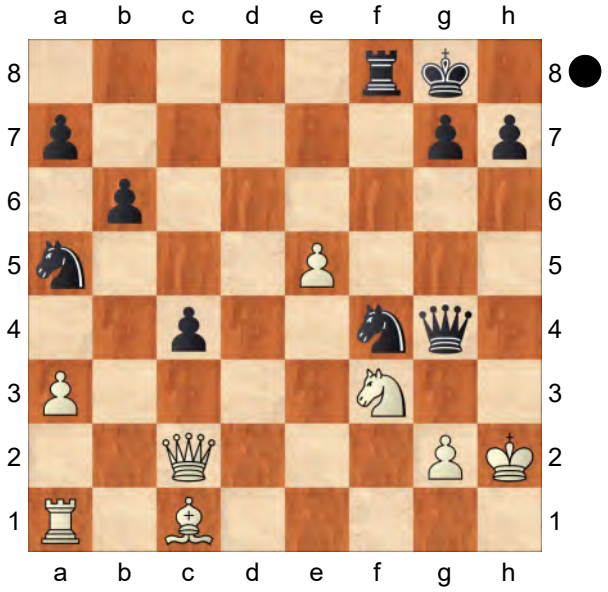
E27: Nimzo-Indian: Sämisch: 5...0-0 6 f3
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 0-0 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne8 0.37/21
[6...d5= -0.02/23 was preferrable.]
7.e4± Nc6
[7...b6 8.Bd3 Ba6 9.Nh3 Nc6 10.e5 Na5 11.Qe2 f6 12.0-0 c5 13.Be3 *(13.Bf4 cxd4 14.cxd4 Rc8 15.Rac1 Qe7 16.Rc3 d5 17.exd6 Nxd6 18.c5 Bxd3 19.Qxd3 Ndb7 20.Qa6 e5 21.Re3 Qd7 22.dxe5 fxe5 23.Bxe5 Rxc5 24.Rd3* Bandeira,M-Zajaczkowski,J Abu Dhabi Masters op 2001 *)* 13...Rc8 14.Rac1 d5 15.Nf4 Nc7 16.exf6 Qxf6 17.cxd5 Bxd3 18.Qxd3 cxd4 19.cxd4 Nxd5 20.Nxd5 exd5 21.Bf2 Nc4 22.Rfe1 11... ♕c7 12. ♘bd2 cd4 13.c,4 (2745)-Logan,T (2722) W-ch M516 corr 1990 (4) ½-½]
8.Bd3 b6 9.f4 The position is equal.
9...Ba6 10.Nf3N
[10.e5 Na5 11.Qe2 d5 12.cxd5 Bxd3 13.Qxd3 Qxd5 14.Nf3 c5 15.0-0 f5 16.a4 Nc7 17.Ba3 Rfd8 18.Qc2 Qb3 19.Qxb3 Nxb3 20.Rad1 c4 21.Nd2 Nd5 22.Rf3 Rdc8 23.Bd6 a6 24.Nb1 b5 Isaev,R-Neuhoff,L Remote Superturnier 20 email 2014 0-1]
10...Na5 11.Qe2 c5 12.d5 -0.40/22
[12.e5= 0.26/20]
12...exd5!∓ 13.cxd5 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 c4 15.Qc2 f5 16.e5 aiming for Bc1-e3.
[16.exf5? Qe7+ 17.Kf2 Nf6∓]
16...d6 17.Nd4 Black must now prevent Nd4-e6. **17...Nc7**
[17...dxe5 is more complex. 18.Ne6 Qxd5 19.Nxf8 Nb3]
18.Nxf5 Nxd5 0.97/26
[18...dxe5∓ -0.48/24 keeps the upper hand. 19.d6 *(19.fxe5 Nb3=)* 19...Nb3]
19.0-0 0.00/22
[White should try 19.Nxd6± 0.97/26 0-0 is the strong threat. Nxf4 20.Bxf4 Rxf4 21.g3]
19...dxe5!= 20.fxe5 Qe8 0.70/23
[20...Nb3= 0.00/22 21.Qe4 Nxa1]
21.Qe4 Nxc3 2.79/27
[Black should play 21...Ne7!± 0.48/19]



22.Qe3? -0.39/23
[22.Qg4!+- 2.79/27 Rxf5 23.Rxf5 *(23.Qxf5 Ne2+ 24.Kh1 Nb3±)*]
22...Qe6∓ 23.Nd4 -3.92/29 Prevents Na5-b3. White is on the road to losing.
[23.Qxc3∓ -0.31/24 Rxf5 24.Rxf5 Qxf5 25.Bb2]
23...Rxf1+-+ 24.Kxf1 Rf8+ 25.Kg1
[25.Ke1? Qg4 26.Kd2 Nd1-+

(26...Qxg2+ 27.Kxc3 Nb3 28.e6±; 26...Nd5 27.h3-+)]

25...Qg4 26.Nf3 Nd5 Excellent horsemanship. **27.Qd2 Nf4 28.h3 Nxh3+ 29.Kh2 Nf4** Inhibits Qd2-d5+. Strongly threatening ...Na5-b3. **30.Qc2**



Nxg2 Remove Defender **31.Ng5**

[31.Qxg2 Qxf3]

31...Qh4+ 32.Kxg2 Nb3 33.Ra2 Nxc1 34.Qxc1 Rf4 35.Ne6 Qg4+ -7.69/22

[⌓35...Rg4+ -#5/19 36.Kf1 Qh3+ *(36...Qh1+* gets mated. *37.Ke2 Qh2+* Skewer, Double Attack *38.Kf3 Qh3+ 39.Ke2 Rg2+* Skewer, Discovered Attack *40.Kf1 Qh1#)* 37.Ke1 Rg1+ Skewer, Discovered Attack 38.Kf2 Rg2+ Skewer 39.Kf1 Qh1#]

36.Kh2 Black is clearly winning. **36...Qh5+ 37.Kg1 Rg4+ 38.Rg2 Rxg2+** Remove Defender **39.Kxg2 Qg4+**

[Inferior is 39...Qxe5 40.Qxc4 b5 41.Qc8+ Kf7 42.Qd7+ Kf6 43.Nd4= *(43.Qxg7+ Kxe6 44.Qg8+ Kd7=)*]

40.Kf2 Qxe6 41.Qc3 Qd5 42.Qe3 Qc5

Weighted Error Value: White=0.77/ Black=0.35

0-1

B48

□ **Saric,Ivan** **2670**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2748**

Karlsruhe Grenke op (9) 01.04.2024

[Roiz,M, Kitty Kat]

B48: Sicilian: Taimanov: 5 Nc3 Qc7 6 Be3 a6 without Be2

Zapata,Alonso: 'Zapata,A: 'Inf 47/(201)"

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4

[4.c3 dxc3 5.Nxc3 d6 6.Bc4 a6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Qe2 Nc6 9.Rd1 b5 10.Bb3 Ra7 11.Be3 Rd7 12.Na4 bxa4 13.Bxa4 Bb7 14.Rac1 Nb8 15.Ba7 Nf6 16.e5 Nd5 Alvarez,A-Zapata,A (2490) (ch) 47/(201) 1989]

4...Nc6 5.Nc3N

[5.g3 Qb6 *(5...a6 6.Bg2 Nf6 7.0-0 Qc7 8.b3 Bc5 9.Ne2 b5 10.Bb2 e5 11.a4 b4 12.Nd2 a5 13.Nc4 Ba6 14.Qd3 0-0 15.Rad1 d6 16.Qf3 Bxc4 17.bxc4 Rab8 18.Qb3 Qb6 19.Nc1 Bd4 20.Bxd4* 6.d4 ♘ge7 7.♗e3 ♘g6-Krstevska,M Norfolk-Devon 1903 0-1 *)* 6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nc3 a6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.a4 Ne5 12.Bf4 d6 13.a5 Bd7 B 44/01-N,N 2001]

5...Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.g4 0.08/19 This is one of the most aggressive setups against the Taimanov. By choosing this move White usually declares his intention to sacrifice a pawn.

[7.Qd2± 0.47/18]

7...b5= 8.Nxc6 Qxc6 9.Qd2 White has to allow b5-b4 to maintain his initiative. **9...b4 10.Ne2 Qxe4 11.Rg1** This interesting position was covered in

a couple of games on the site. **11...Qc6** This is a new move for our PGN Archive. It was mainly tested in correspondence games so far. Frankly speaking, it doesn't look like the most convincing way to solve all the issues.

[After 11...Qc4 White can choose between 12.Nf4 Karjakin,S (2758)-Rapport,R (2760) Stavanger NOR 2021 [Roiz,M] *(and 12.Ng3* 1-0 (51) Ponomariov,R (2642)-Leenhouts,K (2442) Vlissingen NED 2022 [Roiz,M] *)*]

12.Bg2 White has compensation. **12...d5** **13.0-0-0** This was played in the majority of the games. White's lead in development looks threatening at this point.

[After 13.Nf4 Nf6 14.0-0-0 g5 is the strong threat. Bb7! 15.Bd4 -0.46/20 *(15.Kb1=* -0.01/20 *)* 15...Ne4 Shturman,A - Arat,U Chess.com INT 2023, White hardly has more than sufficient compensation for a pawn.]

13...Bb7 **14.Kb1** -0.01/18 Ivan vacates c1 for his rook, but it costs a viable tempo.

[The most straightforward was 14.f4! Nf6 15.f5 with a massive attack on e6. I am not sure what was planned by Arjun in this case, since after exf5 *(*Weaker is *15...Be7?! 16.fxe6 fxe6 17.Nd4 Qd7 18.Qe2↑* Kvaloy,A - Dotzer,L Fagernes 2023*)* 16.Nd4 0.19/20 *(16.gxf5±* 0.59/20 *Qc7 17.Kb1)* 16...Qc4 17.b3 Qc3 18.Qxc3 bxc3 19.Nxf5 White's practical task is much easier because of his more active pieces and the weak pawns on d5 and c3. Pasti,A - Dotzer,L Skalica 2023]

[Worthy of attention is also 14.Nd4!? 0.01/20 14.f4 0.59 Qc7 15.Rge1 next Bf4 is good for White. 0-0-0 Gopal,G - Svanda,O Pardubice 2023 , and now 16.Nb3 Bd6 17.Kb1 , followed by Rc1 provides White promising play along the c-file.]

[14.f4!± 0.46/20]

14...Nf6 **15.g5** **Ne4** **16.Bxe4** **dxe4** **17.Nf4**

[17.Ng3 is hardly more promising, as after Qb5 18.Nh5 Rg8 Black manages to cover g7, and ... Be7 will fully consolidate.]

17...g6 A calm response. Arjun doesn't mind keeping his king in the centre for a while, even though the dark squares around are weak.

[The main point of Ivan's last move can be seen in the following line: 17...Qb5 18.h4 Be7 19.c4! bxc3 20.Qxc3 , and then 0-0? 3.89/22 loses on a spot: *(20...Rg8±* 0.57/22 *)* 21.Nh5+- e5 22.a4+-]

[Another respectable option was 17...a5 18.Qd4 Rg8 19.Qe5 a4 20.Rd2 a3!⇄ , though the centralization of White's pieces isn't to everyone's taste.]

18.Qd4

[An equal alternative was 18.Bd4 0-0-0! 19.Qe2 Rg8 20.Bf6 Prevents Be7 Rxd1+ 21.Rxd1 aiming for Rd8+. Bc5 White has full compensation for the pawn due to his control of the d-file, but Black's position remains solid.]

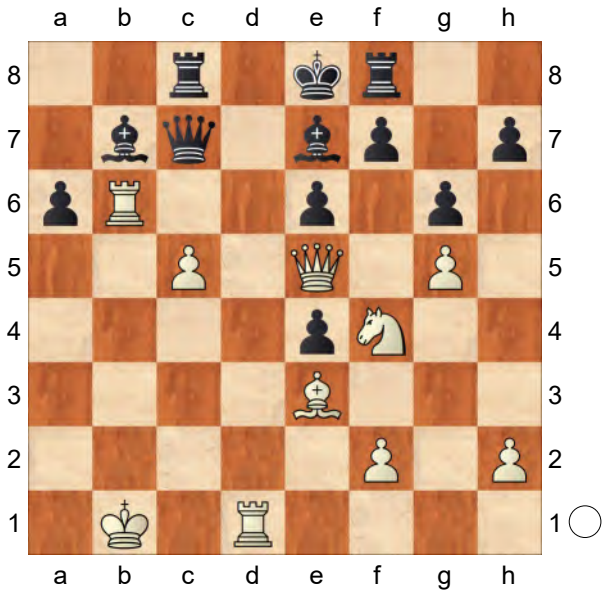
18...Rg8 **19.Rd2** **Qb5** An ambitious choice by Arjun.

[The more modest 19...Be7 Hoping for ...Rd8. 20.Rgd1 Qc7 21.h4 was possible, but Black hardly has anything better than Rd8 22.Qa7 Ra8! with a repetition.]

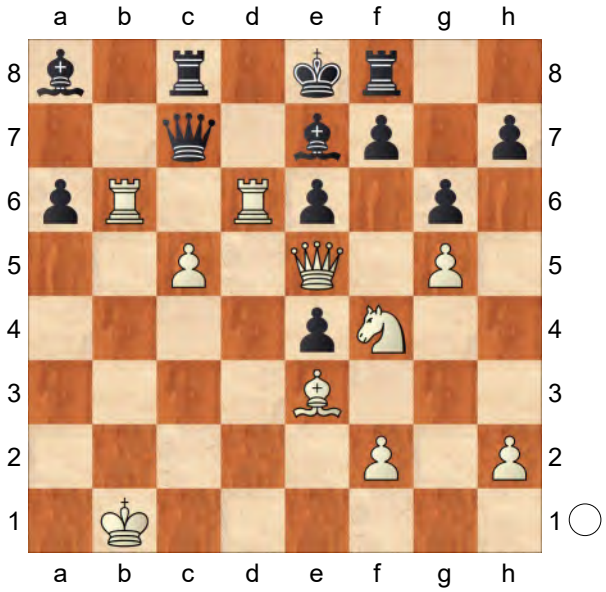
20.Rgd1! **Be7** Prevents Qd8+.

[20...Qxg5 21.Qd7#]
[20...e5 21.Qd8+ Rxd8 22.Rxd8+ Ke7 23.Bc5+ Qxc5 24.R1d7#]
21.a4! -0.58/23 GM Saric finds the only way of maintaining the initiative.
21...bxa3∓ Threatens to win with ...e5!
22.c4 Qc6 0.36/22
[22...Qa4 23.Qb6 Qc6 is hardly an improvement, as White has a few ways to proceed, including. Strongly threatening ...Qxb6. 24.c5!? Qxb6 25.cxb6 axb2 26.h4⩲]
[22...Qxg5? 23.Qd7+ Kf8 24.Nxe6+ *(24.Qxb7 Qf5+-)* 24...fxe6 25.Bxg5 Bxg5 26.Qxb7+-]
[22...Qa4∓ -0.45/22 23.Qb6 a2+ 24.Ka1 Qc6]
23.Qe5!± Chess con chili.
[23.h4 axb2 24.c5 Rd8 25.Qxb2 *(25.Qxd8+ Bxd8 26.Rxd8+ Ke7-+)* 25...Qb5 *(25...Rxd2 26.Rxd2 Rf8 27.Qg7=)* 26.Rxd8+ Bxd8 27.Qxb5+ axb5=]
23...axb2 24.Rxb2 Black's king is stuck in the centre, but there are enough defensive resources. **24...Rc8 25.c5! Rf8** 0.69/25
[Safer was 25...Rd8 26.Rxd8+ Bxd8 27.Qb8 Bc8 28.Ne2! Black must now prevent Nd4. f6! 29.Nd4 Qc7 Black is OK here, but it looks suspicious to the human eye.]
[25...Bxc5 26.Qxc5 Qxc5 27.Bxc5 Rxc5 28.Rxb7 Rb5+ 29.Rxb5 axb5 30.Rd6+-]
[25...Rd8= 0.11/22 26.Rxd8+ Bxd8]
26.Rb6 -0.01/21 White has more active pieces.
[26.h4!? Rd8 27.Rc1 could be more promising for White.]
[White should play 26.h4!± 0.69/25]
26...Qc7!=

(Diagram)

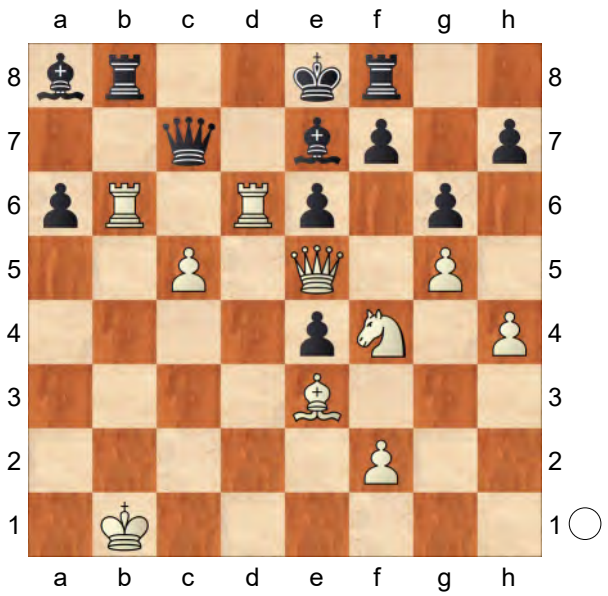


The position is equal. **27.Rdd6!** Very creative play by GM Saric! Black's position looks scary from now on.
27...Ba8
[After 27...Bxd6 28.Rxd6 Bc6 29.Kc1! Black is very cramped, and the material advantage doesn't really tell.]



Arjun is playing very calmly! **28.h4! Rb8!**
[28...Bxd6 29.Rxd6]

(Diagram)



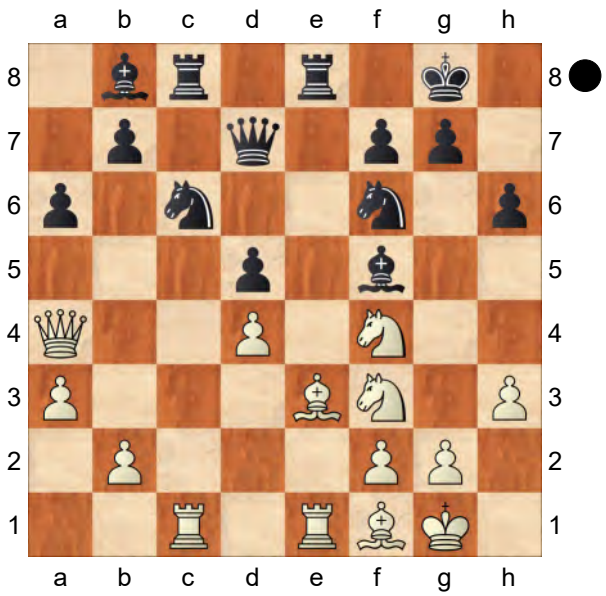
Black definitely needs to force simplifications. ...Rxb6+ would now be deadly. **29.Rxe6** Discovered Attack **29...Qxe5**
[29...Rxb6+ simplifies 30.cxb6 Qxe5 31.Rxe5 Kd8]
30.Rxe5 Rxb6+ 31.cxb6 Kd7 32.Nd5 The activity of White's pieces makes Ivan's position safe in this endgame. **32...Bxd5 33.Rxd5+** Endgame. KRB-KRB **33...Kc6 34.Ra5 Rb8**
[34...Kb7 35.Re5 Bd6 36.Rxe4 Rc8 37.h5 is equal as well.]
35.Rxa6 Bc5 36.Bxc5 Kxc5 KR-KR **37.Ra7 Rxb6+ 38.Kc2** Black is up a pawn just for the moment, a draw is unavoidable. **38...f6 39.Rxh7 fxg5 40.hxg5 Kd4 41.Rd7+ Ke5 42.Rf7 Rd6 43.Rf8**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
½-½

D32
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2738**
■ **Kramnik,Vladimir** **2753**
Titled Tuesday intern op 16th Jan Late blitz (8)
[Kitty Kat]

D32: Tarrasch Defence: Sidelines and lines without g3
1.c4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 c5 4.e3 d5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.d4
[6.Bb5+ Nc6 7.Ne5 Qc7 8.d4 Bd6 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Be2 Bd6 12.h3 0-0 13.0-0 Qe7 14.Qd4 Rb8 15.a3 c5 16.Qh4 Qe5 17.f4 Qe7 18.Bf3 Ba6 19.Rd1 Rfd8 20.Be2 Bxe2 Walker,M-Richardson,K 2/216 Den Haag 1966 0-1]
6...Nc6N
[6...c4 7.Bd2 Bb4 8.b3 Qa5 9.Qc1 Be6 10.a3 Bxc3 11.Bxc3 Qc7 12.bxc4 dxc4 13.Nd2 13: Anti QGD e6/d5/c5 with cx-3... Nf6 4.Nc3 c5 #8]
7.Bb5 cxd4 8.exd4 Bd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.h3 h6 11.Re1 Re8 12.Be3 Bf5 13.Rc1 The position is equal. **13...Rc8 14.Qa4 a6 15.Bf1** -0.70/20
[15.Bxc6= -0.29/21 Rxc6 16.Ne5]
15...Bb8 16.a3 Qd6 17.Ne2 Qd7 -0.51/20
[17...Nh5∓ -0.89/21]
18.Nf4

(Diagram)

Ne5 -0.02/24 **19.Qxd7= Nxf3+ 20.gxf3 Bxd7**
[20...Nxd7 21.Rxc8 *(21.Nxd5 Rcd8±)* 21...Rxc8 22.Nxd5±]
21.Nd3 Bb5 0.22/22
[⌓21...Bd6 -0.26/21]
22.Nc5 Bxf1 23.Kxf1 Re7 24.Bd2 Rxe1+ 25.Rxe1 Ba7 26.Re7 0.21/24 White is more active.



[26.Nxb7?! Bxd4 27.b4 Rc2=]
[26.b4± 0.73/22]

26...Bxc5 27.dxc5 Rxc5 Strongly threatening ...Rc5-c2. **28.Rxb7** Endgame. KRB-KRN **28...d4! 29.Ke2 Rh5** 0.75/25

[29...Re5+!= -0.01/25 30.Kd3 Rf5]

30.Ra7± Rxh3 31.Rxa6 Ra6-a8+ would now be deadly. **31...h5** 1.97/27

[Better is 31...d3+!± 0.51/23 32.Kxd3 Rxf3+ 33.Be3 h5]

32.Rd6 Hoping for b2-b4! **32...Rh1 33.Bg5?** 0.29/24

[33.Rxd4 h4 34.a4 h3±]
[33.Rd8++- 1.81/24 Kh7 34.a4 *(34.Rxd4 Kg6+-)*]

33...Rb1= 34.b4

[34.Rxd4 Rxb2+ 35.Kf1 Kh7]

34...Rb2+ 1.70/24

[34...Ra1!= 0.28/24]

35.Kf1? 0.03/26

[35.Kd3+- 1.70/24]

35...Rb3 36.Ra6 -0.42/23

[36.Rxd4= 0.11/25 Rxa3 37.Be3]

36...Rxf3 -0.01/26

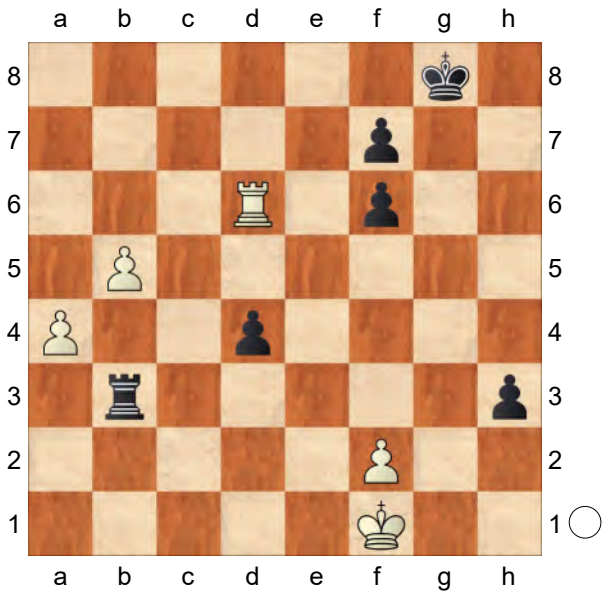
[36...Nd7∓ -0.42/23 37.Rd6 f6 38.Rxd7 fxg5]

37.Bxf6 gxf6∓ KR-KR **38.b5 Rb3 39.a4** And now Ra6-d6! would win.

39...h4? 1.69/25

[39...Rb4= -0.01/24]

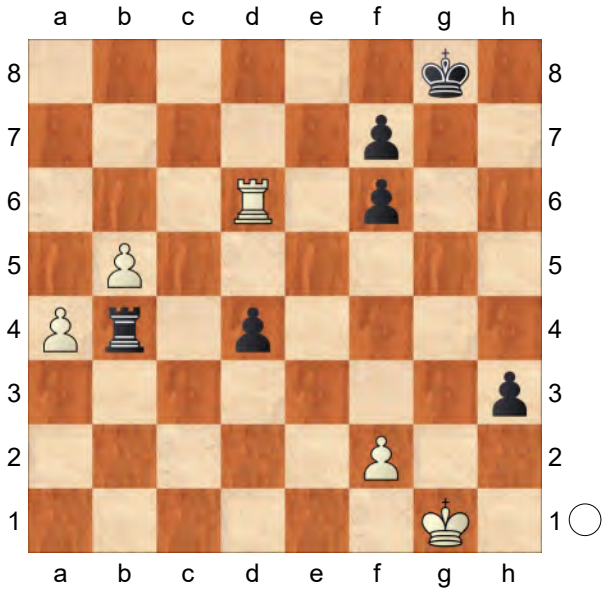
40.Rd6!+- aiming for b5-b6! White has strong compensation. **40...h3**



41.Kg1! b5-b6! is the strong threat.

41...Rb4? 4.08/27

[41...Kf8± 1.34/26]



42.b6! Kg7

[42...Rxa4? is the wrong capture. 43.b7 *(43.Rxf6 Kg7=)* 43...Rb4 44.Rd8+ *(44.Rxf6 Rxb7 45.Rf3*

Kg7∓) 44...Kg7 45.b8Q *(45.b8B Ra4+-; 45.b8R Ra4+-)* 45...Rxb8 46.Rxb8+-]

43.a5 Kg6 14.51/23

[⌓43...Kf8 4.12/24 44.Rd8+ *(44.Rxf6 Ke7±)* 44...Ke7]

44.a6 White wants to mate with a6-a7.

44...d3 45.a7 Rg4+ 46.Kh2 Ra4 47.b7

Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.81

1-0

C00

□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2830**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**

Wch Blitz Samarkand (15) 30.12.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C00: French: Unusual White 2nd moves

Inf 71/(5) **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 Nc6 4.g3 d5 5.Nbd2 Nf6**

[5...g6 6.Bg2 Bg7 7.0-0 Nge7 8.Re1 b6 9.c3 Bb7 10.h4 h6 11.Nf1 d4 12.c4 e5 13.h5 g5 14.a3 Qd7 15.N3h2 0-0 16.Rb1 a6 17.b4 Van Mil,J (2420)-Van Wely,L (2655) 71/(5) Leeuwarden 1997]

6.Bg2 Be7N

[6...g6 7.0-0 Bg7 8.Re1 0-0 9.Qe2 a5 10.Nf1 a4 11.a3 e5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Ne3 Be6 14.Nc4 f6 15.h4 b5 16.Ne3 Qd7 17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.Be3 Nd4 19.Nxd4 Bxg2 20.Nxb5 Bc6 21.Nc3 Primbetov,N (1784)-Zemlyanskii,I (2543) FIDE World Bl Team Pool A blitz 2024 (1.19) 0-1]

7.0-0 Qc7 8.a4!? An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante.

8...h6 9.Re1 0-0 10.Qe2N The position is equal.

[Vorgänger: 10.e5 Nd7 11.Qe2 b6 12.h4 Nb4 0.34/22 *(12...f6=* -0.17/20) 13.Nf1 Ba6 14.Qd1 Rfc8 15.N1h2 Qd8 16.Bf4 Rapport,R (2776)-Gavrilescu,D (2518) Warsaw Superbet Classic rapid 2022 (4) 1-0]

10...b6 11.e5 Nh7 12.Nf1 Ba6 13.h4 Nb4 14.Qd1 Kh8 15.Bf4 d4 16.Bd2 With the idea Bxb4. **16...Rad8** 0.61/20

[16...Nd5= 0.01/19]

17.b3 -0.23/20

[17.Bxb4± 0.61/20 cxb4 18.N1d2]

17...Bb7 0.35/20

[17...Nd5= -0.23/20]

18.Bxb4!± cxb4 19.N3d2 -0.01/20

[19.N1d2± 0.45/19]

19...Bxg2= 20.Kxg2 Rc8 0.44/19

[20...f6= 0.01/20 feels stronger.]

21.Nc4 a6 22.Ra2 b5 0.63/21

[22...Rfd8= 0.24/20 deserves consideration.]

23.Ncd2± Rfd8 24.axb5 axb5 25.Qf3 Kg8 26.Qe4 Nf8 27.Nf3 Bc5 0.86/21

[27...Qb6± 0.41/21]

28.N1d2 0.31/20

[White should try 28.g4± 0.86/21]

28...Nd7 0.71/21

[28...Ng6± 0.31/20 might be stronger.]

29.Rea1± White is more active.

[29.Nxd4 Qb6 30.N2f3 Nxe5=]

29...Bb6 30.g4 Nc5 1.09/22

[30...Rf8± 0.52/20]

(Diagram)

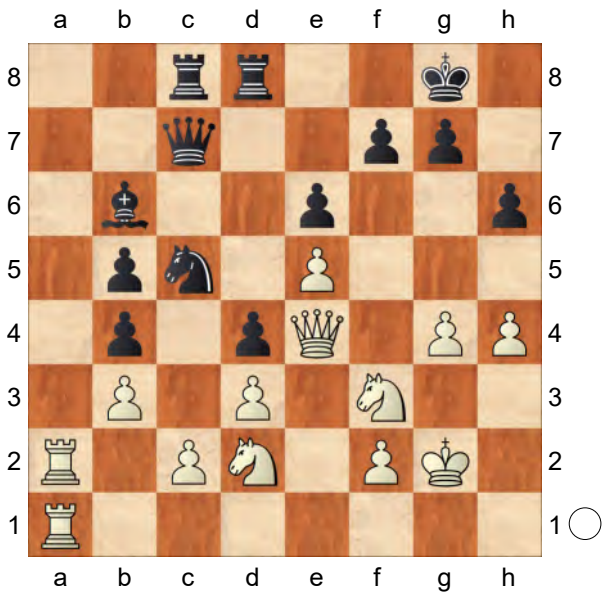
31.Qf4! f6 1.91/22 **32.Ne4+-** Strongly threatening Nxc5. **32...Rf8**

33.Nxc5 Bxc5 1.82/25

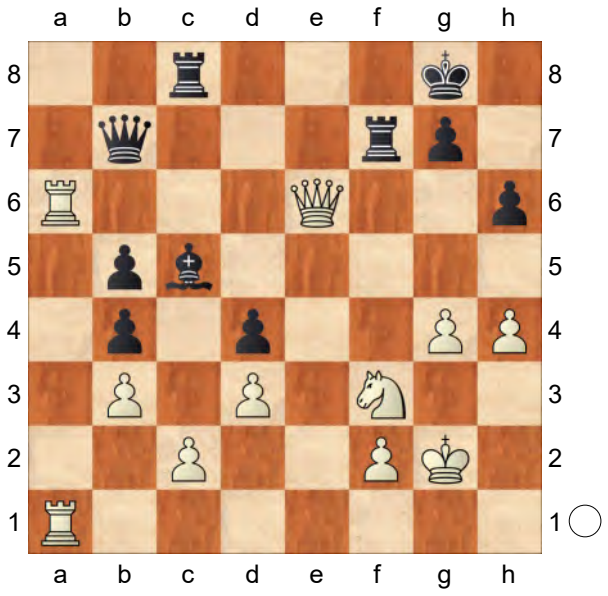
[33...Qxc5± 0.62/23 34.Qe4 f5 35.gxf5 exf5]

34.Ra6

[34.Nxd4? fxe5 35.Nxe6 Rxf4-+]

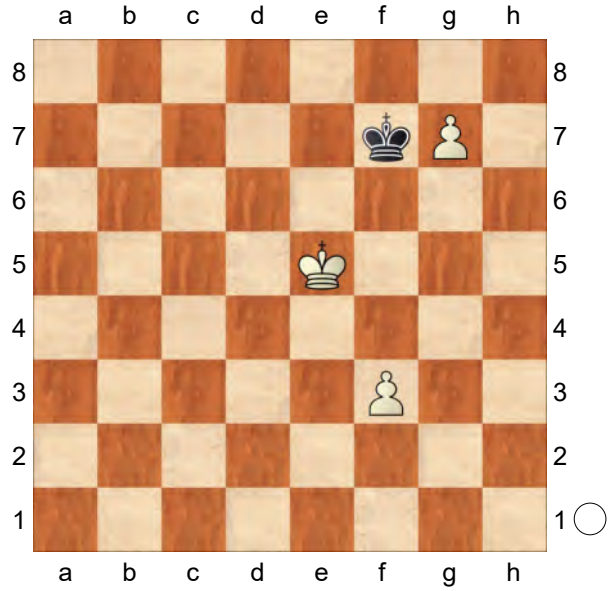


34...fxe5 2.79/24
[34...Qb7± 1.33/21]
35.Qxe5 Qb7 36.Qxe6+ Rf7? 4.00/25
[36...Kh7 2.42/25 37.Qg6+ *(37.Qe4+ Qxe4 38.dxe4 Rf4=)* 37...Kg8]



37.Qxc8+!! Qxc8 38.Ra8 Pin **38...Rf8 39.Rxc8 Rxc8** Endgame. KRB-KRN **40.Ra5 Be7 41.Rxb5 Rxc2 42.Nxd4 Rc3 43.Nf5 Bf8 44.d4 Rxb3 45.g5?** 0.58/25
[45.Rb6+- 2.44/24]
45...hxg5? 2.73/23
[45...g6!± 0.58/25 46.Nxh6+ Bxh6]
46.hxg5 g6 47.Nh4 Be7? 6.21/22
[47...Bg7 2.69/21 48.Nxg6 Bxd4]
48.Nxg6 Bd6 49.Rb6 Bc7 50.Rc6 1.88/25
[50.Rb7 6.02/24 Bd8 51.f4 Rb2+ 52.Kf3]
50...Rc3 51.Rf6 1.41/26
[51.Re6+- 1.90/27 b3 52.Ne7+ Kf7 53.g6+ Kxe6 54.g7]
51...b3? 12.47/22
[51...Bd8± 1.41/26 52.Rf8+ Kg7]
52.Ne7+ Kg7 53.Nd5 5.27/30
[⌓53.Nf5+ 14.58/28 Kg8 54.g6]
53...Rc1 54.Nxc7 KRN-KR **54...b2** #22/22
[54...Rxc7+- 4.92/24 55.Rb6 Kf7]
55.Ne6+ Kg8 56.Rf8+? 2.95/5
[56.g6 #17/24 mates Rg1+ 57.Kf3 *(57.Kxg1 b1Q+ 58.Kh2 Qb8+ 59.Kh3 Qe8 60.d5 Qe7 61.Rf8+ Qxf8 62.Nxf8 Kxf8)* 57...Rxg6 58.Rxg6+ Kf7 59.Rg1 *(59.Rg7+ Kxe6 60.Rb7 Kd5 61.Ke3 Ke6 62.Ke4 Kd6 63.d5 Kc5 64.Rxb2 Kd6)* 59...Kxe6 60.Ke4 *(60.Rb1 Kd5 61.Ke3 Ke6 62.Ke4 Kd6 63.Rxb2 Ke7 64.d5 Kf7)* 60...Kd6 61.d5 *(61.Rb1 Ke6 62.d5+ Kd6 63.Rxb2 Kc7 64.Rc2+ Kd6 65.Rc6+ Ke7)*]
56...Kh7 57.Rb8
[Less strong is 57.Rf7+ Kh8±]
57...b1Q 58.Rxb1 Rxb1 KR-KN
59.Kf3? 0.01/29
[59.d5+- 5.05/30 Kg8 60.Kf3]
59...Kg6= 60.Kf4 Rb5? 2.43/27
[60...Rf1= 0.01/29 and Black stays safe.]
61.Ke4? 0.01/30
[61.Kg4+- 2.43/27]
61...Rb1 62.d5 Re1+ 63.Kf4 Re2 64.f3 Re1? 9.75/26
[64...Rd2± 0.44/28]

65.Nd4 Rd1 66.Nc6? 0.41/26
[66.Nf5+- 7.92/26 Threatens to win with d6. Kf7 67.Ke4]
66...Kf7? 9.54/26
[66...Kg7± 0.41/26]
67.Ke5+- Re1+ 68.Kf5 Rd1 69.Ne5+
[And not 69.Ke5 Kg6=]
69...Ke7 70.g6 Rxd5 71.g7 White mates. **71...Rxe5+ 72.Kxe5 Kf7**



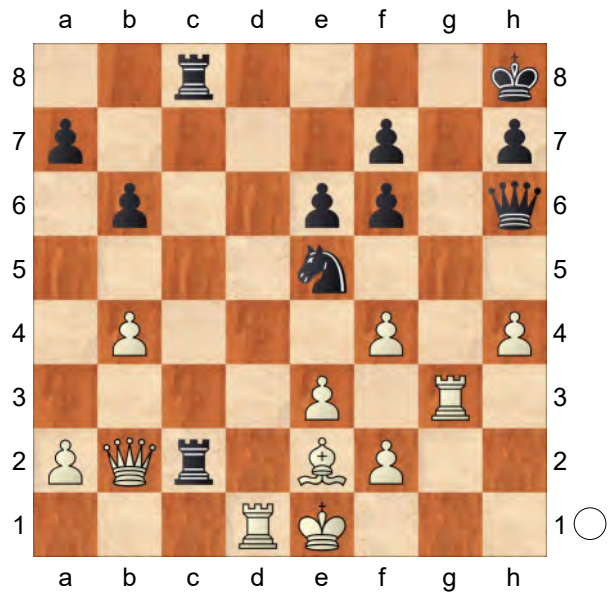
73.g8Q+! Deflection **73...Kxg8 74.Kf6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.48/ Black=0.50
1-0

D02
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Bok,Benjamin** **2587**
CrunchLab Masters Div 3 W rapid (2.2)
[Kitty Kat]

D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4
1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4
[2.a3 g6 3.Bf4 d6 4.e3 Bg7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 b6 7.0-0 Bb7 8.h3 Nbd7 9.c4 Ne4 10.Bh2 e5 11.d5 a5 12.b3 f5 13.Nfd2 Ndc5 14.Nxe4 Nxe4 15.Ra2 Bc8 16.f3 Nc5 Carlsen,M (2863)-Anand,V (2753) Legends of Chess Prelim rapid 2020 (2.1) ½-½]
2...d5N
[2...c5 3.d5 d6 4.Nc3 g6 5.e4 Bg7 6.Nf3 0-0 7.a4 Bg4 8.Be2 Nbd7 9.0-0 Bxf3 10.Bxf3 Ne5 11.Be2 Benoni Setups-3...d6 Variation 3]
3.e3 e6 4.Nf3 c5 5.Nbd2 Qb6 6.Rb1 Bd6 7.dxc5 Qxc5 8.b4 The position is equal. **8...Qc7 9.Bxd6 Qxd6 10.c4 0-0 11.Qc2 b6 12.cxd5 Qxd5 13.Bc4 Qh5 14.Ne4 Bb7 15.Nxf6+ gxf6 16.Be2 Rc8** Prevents Qc2-c7 **17.Qb2 Qg6 18.Nh4 Qh6 19.Nf3 Nd7 20.Rd1 Rc7 21.h4** -0.38/21
[21.0-0= 0.07/22 is more appropriate.]
21...Rac8 0.09/20
[21...f5∓ -0.38/21]
22.Rh3!= Bxf3 23.gxf3 Ne5 1.45/22
[23...Kh8!= 0.28/21 remains equal.]
24.f4 0.89/23
[⌓24.Ba6 1.45/22 Rb8 *(24...Rc2? 25.Rg3+ Ng6 26.Qxf6+-)* 25.h5]
24...Rc2± 25.Rg3+ 0.64/24
[White should play 25.Qa1± 1.11/22 Ng6 26.Qxf6]
25...Kh8? 9.39/24
[25...Kf8± 0.64/24 26.Qb3 Ng6]

(Diagram)

26.Qxc2!! Deflection, Back Rank. Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.23 (precise)
1-0



C78

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**

■ **Praggnanandhaa,Rameshbabu** **2740**

Wch Blitz Samarkand (16) 30.12.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C78: Ruy Lopez: Archangelsk and Möller Defences

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Bc5 6.c3 0-0 7.d4 Ba7

[7...Bb6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 d6 10.h3 g5 11.Nxg5 hxg5 12.Bxg5 Kh7 13.Bxc6 Rg8 14.f4 bxc6 15.Qe1 Rxg5 16.fxg5 Ng8 17.Rxf7+ Kg6 18.Rf3 exd4 19.Kh1 Qe7 20.Nd2 dxc3 21.bxc3 Be6 22.Qh4 Panov Botvinnik Attack (2784)-Deslandes,P (2835) 3.--- 1990 (7) 1-0]

8.Re1N

[8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 exd4 10.Re1 d6 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.Nxd4 Bd7 13.Nd2 Re8 14.Qf3 g5 15.Bg3 Bg4 16.Qd3 Qd7 17.h3 Bh5 18.Qc4 c5 19.Nf5 d5 20.Nxh6+ Kh7 21.exd5 Kxh6 22.Rxe8 Rxe8 Urazayev,A (2460)-Nabaty,T (2645) Kazakhstan Cup 2023 (5) 0-1]

8...b5 9.Bb3 d6 10.Be3 -0.19/20

[10.h3± 0.44/19]

10...exd4 0.33/20

[10...Bg4!= -0.19/20]

11.cxd4± Bg4 12.Nc3 Re8 0.75/20

[12...h6= 0.24/17]

13.h3 0.15/21

[13.Nd5!± 0.75/20]

13...Bh5? 2.20/20

[13...Bxf3= 0.15/21 14.gxf3 Na5]

14.g4+- Bg6 15.Bg5? 0.57/20

[White must play 15.e5!+- 2.26/21]

15...h6? 2.38/21

[15...Na5!± 0.57/20]

16.Bh4 1.10/19

[16.Bxf6!+- 2.38/21 Qxf6 17.Nd5]

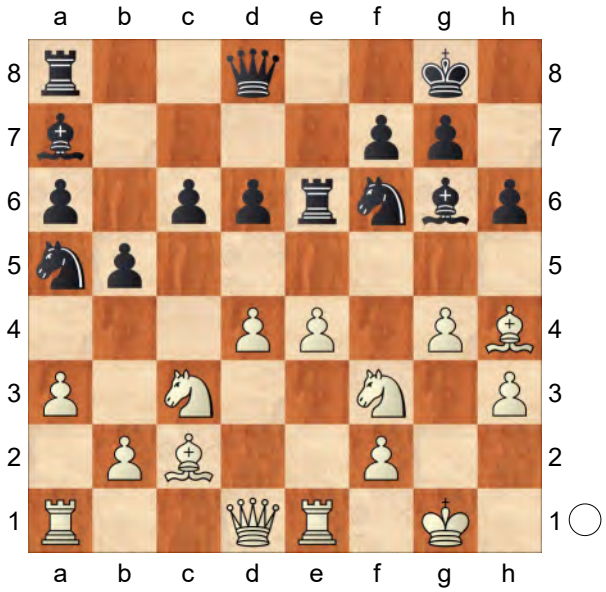
16...Na5± 17.Bc2 c6 Dodges Nc3-d5

18.a3 0.48/19

[White should play 18.b3± 1.20/20]

18...Re6 1.63/20

[18...Nc4± 0.48/19]

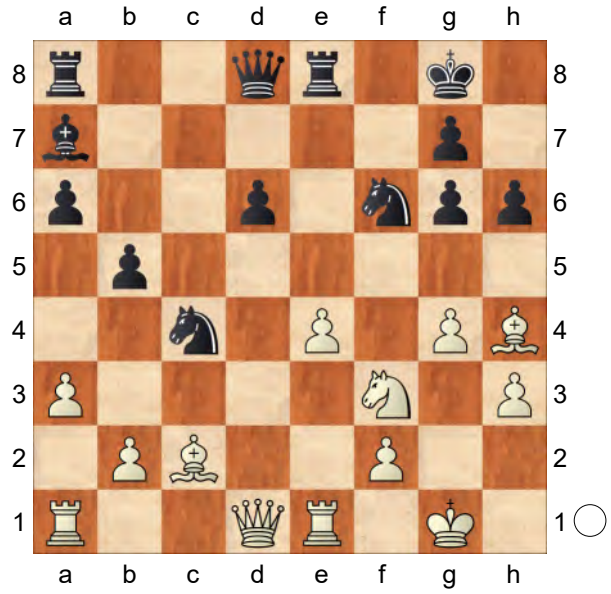


19.d5!+- cxd5 20.Nxd5 Nc4 2.36/19

[20...Rc8± 1.31/19 was called for. 21.a4 Nc6]

21.Nf4 1.10/20

[21.Nd4+- 2.36/19]
21...Re8± 22.Nxg6 fxg6



23.g5? 0.01/20
[23.e5!± 1.58/19 dxe5 24.Bxg6 Qxd1 25.Raxd1 Nxb2 26.Rb1]
23...hxg5!= 24.Nxg5 d5 1.30/21
[24...Re5!= 0.01/19 remains equal.]
25.b3? -0.22/21
[White should try 25.exd5± 1.30/21 Qd6 26.Qf3 *(26.Bxg6 Qf4∓)*]
25...Ne5 0.45/21
[25...Qd6= -0.22/21 26.bxc4 Qf4]
26.exd5± Qxd5 3.19/23
[26...Nh7!± 0.36/21 27.Rxe5 Rxe5]
27.Qxd5++- Nxd5 28.Rad1 1.98/24
[⌓28.Bg3 3.53/24 Nd7 29.Rxe8+ *(29.Bxg6 Rxe1+ 30.Rxe1 Rf8+-)* 29...Rxe8 30.Bxg6]
28...Nf6 29.Kg2↑ White has strong initiative. **29...Rac8 30.Bb1 Nf7?** 5.63/22
[30...Nh5 2.01/22 is more resistant. 31.Kh1 Nf6]
31.Bxg6 White is clearly winning.
31...Nxg5 32.Bxe8 Nge4 33.Bg6 Nc3 34.Rc1
Weighted Error Value: White=0.63/Black=0.66
1-0

E25
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2723**
Wch Blitz Samarkand (20) 30.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

E25: Nimzo-Indian: Sämisch: 5...c5 6 f3 d5 7 cxd5
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.dxc5 Qa5 9.e4 Ne7 10.Qb3N
[10.Be3 Qxc3+ 11.Kf2 Nbc6 12.Bd3 f5 13.Ne2 Qf6 14.Re1 e5 15.Kg1 f4 16.Bf2 Be6 17.Nc3 Rd8 18.Qe2 0-0 19.Rab1 Rd7 20.Nb5 Nc8 21.Bc4 Qf7 22.Bxe6 Qxe6 23.Red1 Rfd8 24.Bh4 Rxd1+ Meier,D (2520)-Armas (2375) 60/287 Paris 1994 ½-½]
10...0-0!? 0.33/24 A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.
[10...Qxc5= -0.08/21 11.Qb5+ Nd7 12.Qxc5 Nxc5]
11.a4N -0.03/20
[Vorgänger: 11.Be3
A) 11...Qc7 12.Bb5 *(12.Nh3 Nd7 13.Nf2 Nxc5 14.Qc4 b6 15.Bxc5 bxc5 16.Nd3 Bd7 17.Qxc5 Rac8 18.Qxc7 Rxc7 19.Kd2 Rfc8 20.Rc1 Nc6 21.Rb1 Na5 22.Ne5 f6 23.Nxd7 Rxd7+ 24.Kc2 Rdc7 25.c4 Nxc4 26.Bxc4 Rxc4+* Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2753)-Hosmer,H (2691) DDR-ch22 Final 1973 (10) ½-½ *; 12.f4 Nd7 13.Qc4 Nc6 14.Nf3 b6 15.cxb6 axb6 16.Nd4 Nc5 17.Nb5 Qe7 18.e5 Na5 19.Qa2 Bb7 20.Nd6 Ne4 21.Nxe4 Bxe4 22.Qb2 Bd5 23.a4*

f6 24.Qb4 Qxb4 25.cxb4 Nb3 26.Ra3 fxe5 Calisaya Apaza,B (1213)-Ribera,M (1911) La Paz GP op 3rd 2023 (3) 0-1*)* 12...Nec6 13.f4 Na5 14.Qb4 Na6 15.Bxa6 bxa6 16.Rd1 e5 17.Nf3 Rb8 18.Qa4 exf4 19.Bf2 Be6 20.0-0 Rfc8 21.Rd5 Nb7 22.Re5 Qa5 23.Qb4 Qc7 24.Qa4 Qa5 Schuler,D (2435)-5..dxe4 (2570) 6/410 Palma de Mallorca 1968 (8) ½-½;

B) 11...e5 12.Bb5 *(12.Bc4 Na6 13.Ne2 Nc6 14.Rb1 Nxc5 15.Qb5 Qxb5 16.Rxb5 Ne6 17.Bd5 Ned8 18.c4 Re8 19.Kf2 b6 20.c5 Ba6 21.a4 Bxb5 22.axb5 bxc5 23.bxc6 Rc8 24.Nc3 Nxc6 25.Nb5 Red8 26.Bxc5 Nd4* Meier,E (2560)-Baleja,M (2470) Trial England 2007 1-0 *)* 12...Na6 13.Ne2 Be6 14.Bc4 Bxc4 15.Qxc4 Rac8 16.Rb1 b6 17.Qb5 Qxb5 18.Rxb5 Nxc5 19.Bxc5 Rxc5 20.Rxc5 bxc5 Belous,V (2567)-Baker,V (2147) Cardinal op Columbus 2018 (5) 1-0]

[11.Bf4± 0.33/24]

11...Nec6

[11...Qxc5!? 12.Qa3 Qc7=]

12.Bb5 The position is equal. **12...e5 13.Ne2 Be6 14.Bc4 Bxc4 15.Qxc4 Nd7 16.Be3 Rac8 17.0-0 Qc7 18.Rfd1 Na5 19.Qb5 Nxc5**

(Diagram)

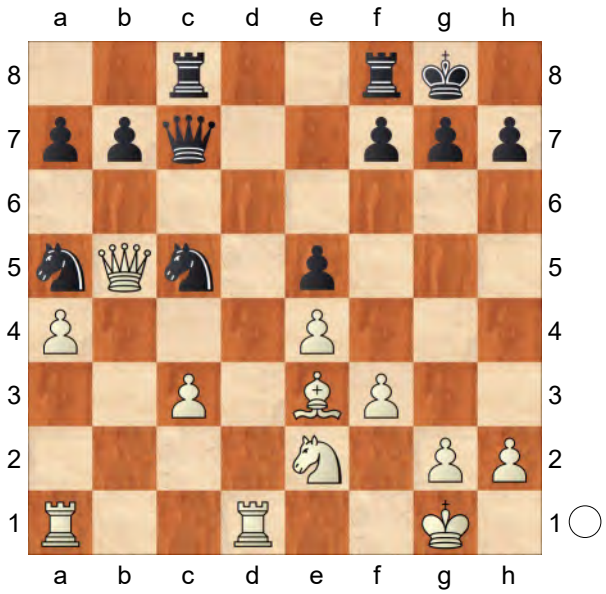
20.Rd5!

[20.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 21.Qxc5 Rxc5∓]

20...b6 1.43/21

[Black should try 20...Ncb3 0.91/24 21.Rad1 b6]

21.Bxc5± bxc5 22.Rad1 g6 23.h4 h5



1.80/23

[23...Rfd8± 1.18/19]

24.Rd7+- Qb6 25.R1d5 Nc6 3.08/25

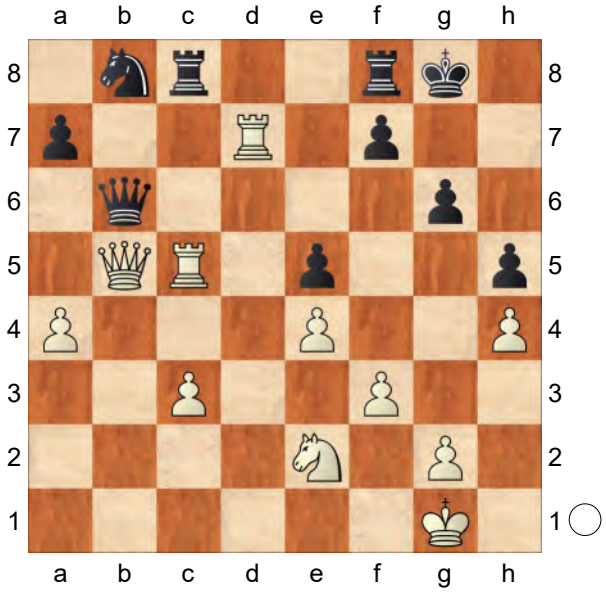
[⌓25...Rb8 1.76/20]

26.Rxc5? 0.74/23

[And not 26.Qxc5 Qb1+ 27.Rd1 Qc2=]

[26.Rb7+- 3.08/25 has better winning chances. Qxb5 27.axb5]

26...Nb8±



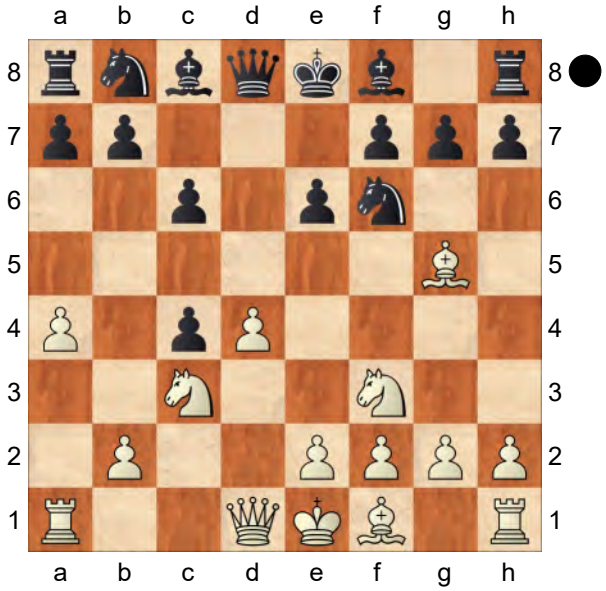
27.Qxb6 0.41/26

[27.Rdc7!± 0.79/27 Hoping for Rc7xc8. Rxc7 28.Qxb6

Remove Defender axb6 29.Rxc7]
27...axb6± 28.Rxc8
[28.Rxe5? loses. Nxd7 29.Rb5 Rc4-+]
28...Rxc8± 2.86/24 Endgame. KRN-KRN
[28...Nxd7± 0.51/26 29.Rc6 Ra8]
29.Rb7+- Na6 30.Rxb6 Nc5 31.a5 Rd8 32.Rb5 Rd1+ 33.Kf2 Nd3+ 34.Ke3 Ne1 35.Rxe5 Nxg2+ 36.Kf2 Nxh4 37.Nd4 f6 38.Re7 0.43/23
[38.Re6+- 3.73/24]
38...Ra1? 2.74/25
[38...Rd2+!± 0.43/23 39.Ke3 Ra2]
39.Nc6? 0.02/24
[White should play 39.Ne6+- 2.74/25]
39...Ra2+= 40.Ke3
[40.Kg3!? g5□ 41.Ra7=]
40...Ng2+ 41.Kd4 h4 42.Rb7 Strongly threatening Rb7-b1. **42...h3 43.Rb1** Kd4-c4 would now be deadly. **43...Nh4 44.Ke3 Ng2+ 45.Kd4 Nh4 46.f4 g5 47.fxg5 fxg5** White must now prevent ...g5-g4. **48.Rh1 g4** 0.63/24
[Better is 48...h2= 0.04/24 49.Ne5 Kf8]
49.Ne5!± Deflection **49...g3** 3.99/19
[49...Rxa5= 0.18/23 and Black has nothing to worry. 50.Nxg4 Nf3+ 51.Kd3 Ng5]
50.Rxh3+- g2 51.Rxh4?? -6.77/30
[51.Rg3++- 3.93/18 Kf8 52.Ng6+ Nxg6 53.Rxg6]
51...g1Q+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.55/ Black=0.51
[Worse is 51...g1R 52.Nc6±]
0-1

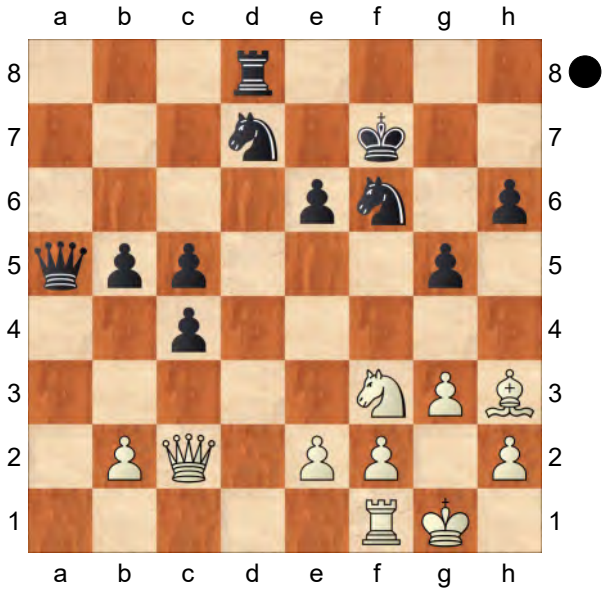
D44
□ **Maghsoodloo,Parham** **2742**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
Chennai (6) 20.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

D44: Semi-Slav: Botvinnik System
1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 d5 4.d4 c6 5.Bg5 dxc4 6.a4



b5! 7.g3 White has compensation.
[7.axb5 cxb5]
7...Bb7 8.Bg2 a6 9.0-0 Black has an edge. **9...Be7 10.Ne5N** aiming for a4xb5.
[10.e4 h6 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.axb5 axb5 13.Rxa8 Bxa8 14.Qa1 Nd7 15.Qa7 0-0 16.e5 Be7 Chapter-Games Chapter 1 Game 2]
10...0-0 -0.01/21
[10...Nd5∓ -0.43/18 11.Bxe7 Qxe7]
11.axb5= axb5 12.Rxa8 Bxa8 13.Qa1 Qxd4 Hoping for ...Ba8-b7. **14.Nxf7**
[14.Nf3 Qb6 15.b3 *(15.Qxa8? Na6-+; 15.Bxf6? Bxf6 16.Ne4 Nd7-+)* 15...cxb3 16.Nxb5 *(16.Qxa8? Na6-+)* 16...Qxb5-+]
14...Kxf7 15.Qxa8 Qb6 16.Qa1 -0.62/19

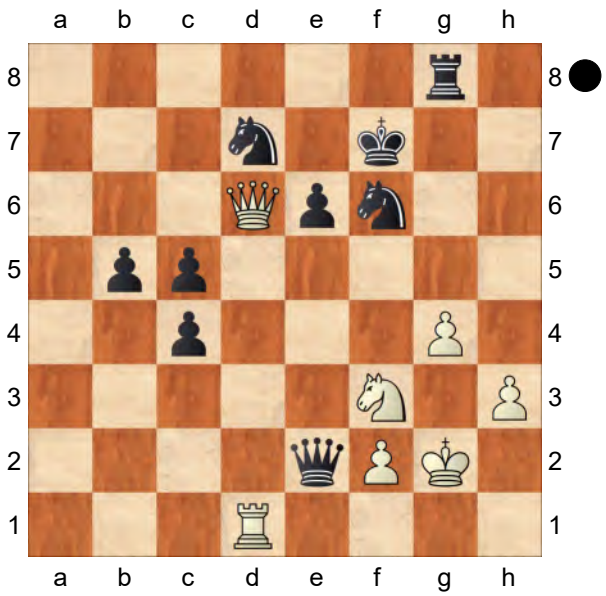
[16.Be3= -0.20/20 c5 17.Ra1]
16...Nbd7∓ 17.Qb1 h6 18.Bf4 Nd5 19.Ne4 N7f6 Black is more active.
20.Be5 Rd8 21.Bh3 c5 22.Nd2 Nd7
[22...Ne3 23.fxe3 Rxd2 24.Bg4=]
23.Nf3 Bf6 24.Bxf6 N5xf6
[Of course not 24...N7xf6 25.Ne5+ Kg8 26.Rd1= *(26.Qg6 Rf8∓)*]
25.Qc2 Qa5 26.Rc1 g5 27.Rf1 -1.56/21
[27.Bg2∓ -0.61/22]



27...Qa4!∓
[Stronger than 27...g4 28.Bxg4 Qa4 29.Qb1= *(29.Qxa4 bxa4 30.Rc1 a3-+)*]
28.Qd2 -2.87/22
[⩲28.Qb1 -1.67/21]
28...g4-+ 29.Bxg4 Nxg4 30.h3 Ngf6 31.Qxh6 Rg8 ...Qa4-c2 is the strong threat. **32.g4** -4.43/20
[⩲32.Qd2 -2.79/19]
32...Qc2 33.Qf4 Ke7 34.Qg3 Qxb2 35.Rd1 Qxe2 36.Qd6+ Kf7 37.Kg2

(Diagram)

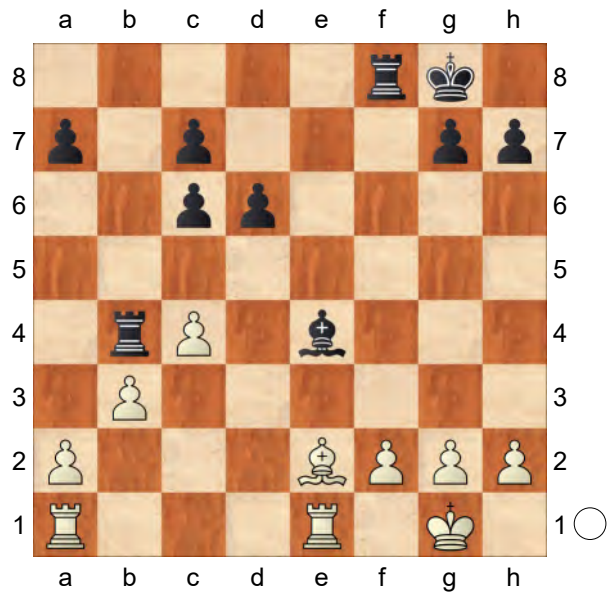
Nxg4! (-> ...Ng4-e3+) **38.Ng5+**



[38.Qf4+ Ngf6+]
38...Rxg5 Black mates. **39.Qxd7+ Kf6 40.Qd8+ Kf5**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.70/ Black=0.04 (flawless)
0-1

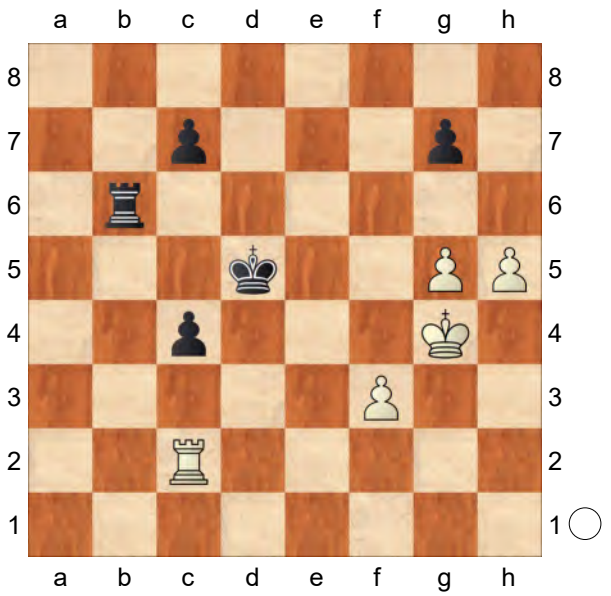
C45
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2723**
Chennai (5) 19.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C45: Scotch Game
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.Qe2 Rb8 0.27/19
[Black should play 6...d5 -0.23/19]
7.e5= Nd5 8.c4 Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Nf4 10.Qe3 Ne6 11.Bxb4 Rxb4 12.b3N f6 13.Be2 fxe5 14.Qxe5 0-0 15.0-0 d6 16.Qe3 Qg5 0.39/22
[16...Nf4= -0.01/19 might be stronger. 17.Bf3 d5]
17.Qxg5± Nxg5 18.Nc3 Bf5 19.Rfe1 Ne4 1.03/21
[19...Rbb8± 0.39/20]
20.Nxe4± Bxe4



21.Bh5! Bg6 22.Bxg6 0.63/22
[Better is 22.Bf3± 1.18/23]
22...hxg6 Endgame. KRR-KRR **23.Re7 Rf7 24.Re3 a5 25.Rg3 a4 26.Re1**
[26.Rxg6 axb3 27.axb3 Rxb3∓]
26...d5 0.77/24
[26...g5± 0.32/22]
27.Rxg6 dxc4 28.Rg4 White is more active.
[28.Rxc6 cxb3 29.axb3 axb3=]
28...axb3 29.axb3 Rxb3 30.Rxc4 Rf6 31.Rec1 Rb2 32.f3
[32.Rxc6? Rxc6 *(32...Rfxf2 33.Rg6=)* 33.Rf1 Rcc2-+]
32...Rg6 33.R4c2
[33.Rxc6 Rgxg2+ 34.Kh1 Rxh2+ 35.Kg1 Rbg2+ 36.Kf1 Ra2=]
33...Rxc2 34.Rxc2 KR-KR **34...Kf7** 1.35/24
[⌓34...Rf6 0.97/25]
35.g4 Ke7 36.h4 Kd6 1.32/23
[⌓36...Rh6 0.93/24]
37.Kf2 c5 38.h5 Rf6 1.78/23
[38...Rh6± 1.12/23]
39.Kg3+- Kd5 40.g5 Rb6 41.Kg4 Black must now prevent Rc2-h2. **41...c4**

(Diagram)



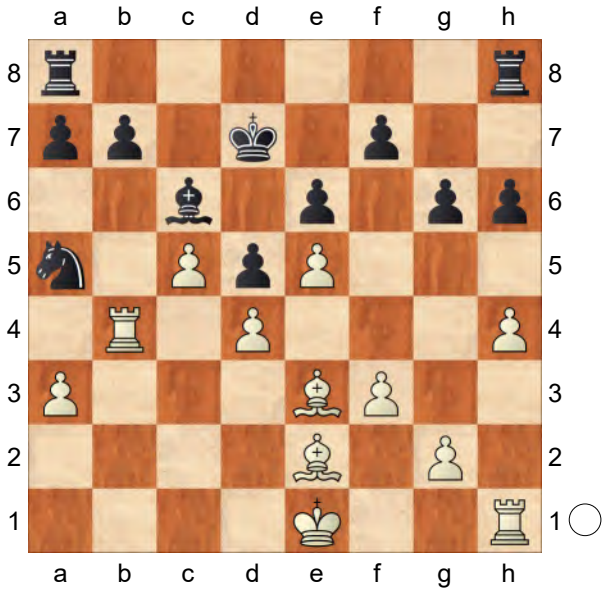
42.f4! Kd4 43.f5 0.01/23
[43.Kf5± 1.08/21]
43...c3= 44.h6 gxh6 45.g6 g6-g7 is the strong threat. **45...Rb2 46.Rc1** Strongly threatening Rc1-f1. **46...Rg2+ 47.Kf3 Rg5 48.Kf4** The position is equal. **48...c5**
[48...c6!?]
49.Rd1+ Kc4 aiming for ...c3-c2.
50.Ke4 c2 51.Rf1 Kc3
[51...Kb3!?]
52.f6! Rg4+!
[52...Rxg6? 53.f7+-]
53.Kf5
[53.Ke5!? Rg5+□ *(53...Rxg6?* is the wrong capture. *54.f7+-)* 54.Ke4 Rg4+ *(54...Rxg6? 55.f7+-)* 55.Ke5 Rg5+ *(55...Rxg6? 56.f7+-)* 56.Ke4=]
53...Rg5+ Deflection **54.Ke4** Threatens to win with f6-f7. The board is on fire.
54...Rg4+!
[54...Rxg6 55.f7 Rg5 56.f8Q+- *(56.f8R h5=)*]
55.Kf5
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.09 (flawless)
[55.Kd5!? Rg5+□ *(55...Rxg6?*

too greedy. *56.f7+-)* 56.Ke4=]
½-½

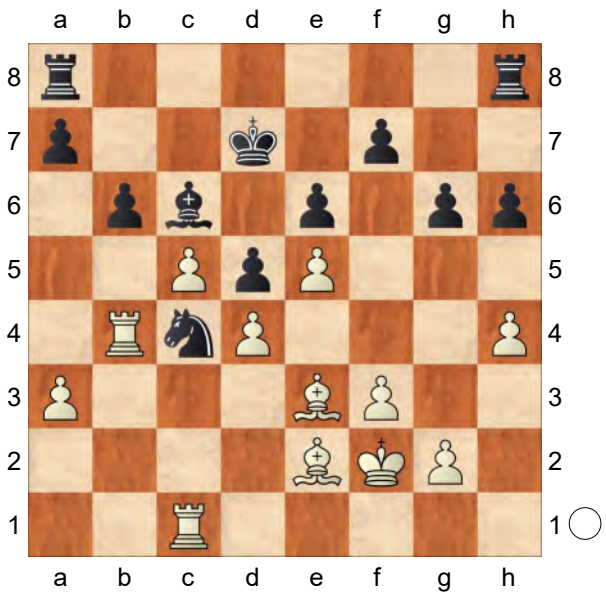
C18

□ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2737**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
Gashimov Memorial Blitz 9th (7)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.Nf3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Qa4 10.Qf4
[10.Ra2 c4 11.h4 h6 12.Qf4 Bd7 13.Be2 Rh7 14.Nh2 0-0-0 15.Ng4 Rf8 16.Nf6 Nxf6 17.Qxf6 Qa5 18.g3 Rg8 19.Bg4 Re8 20.Ke2 Ne7 21.Rb1 Ng8 22.Qf3 f5 23.Bh3 g5 24.Bg2 g4 Caspi,I (2455)-Roiz,M (2605) ISR-chT Israel 2019 (6.3) ½-½]
10...Qxc2
[10...c4 11.Be2 h6 12.Ra2 Bd7 13.Qh4 Nge7 14.Bg5 Qa5 15.0-0 Nf5 16.Qh3 Rg8 17.Bc1 Rh8 18.Bd2 0-0-0 19.Rb1 g5 20.g4 Rdg8 21.Qg2 Nfe7 22.a4 Kb8 23.Rab2 Bc8 24.Ra1 Ng6 25.Rb5 Davis,L (1893)-Olesen,P (1976) EU-chT Sesniors 65 2023 (6.7) ½-½]
11.dxc5 Bd7N White is slightly better.
[11...Qe4+ 12.Qxe4 dxe4 13.Ng5 f5 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.f3 exf3 16.Nxf3 Ne4 17.Bb5 Bd7 18.0-0 Ne5 19.Bxd7+ Nxd7 20.c6 bxc6 21.Bh6 Duprey,M (2457)-Lusgin,V (2527) CCOL12 prel1-06 1992 ½-½]
12.Nd4 Nxd4 13.cxd4 Ne7 14.Be2 0.00/21
[14.f3± 0.67/20]
14...Qe4 0.46/22
[14...Nf5!= 0.00/21
is more appropriate.]
15.f3± Qxf4 16.Bxf4 h6 0.81/22
Black is weak on the dark squares
[16...b6± 0.44/22]
17.h4 Nc6 1.01/21
[17...b6± 0.61/21]
18.Be3!± Na5 19.Rb1 Bc6 20.Rb4
Prevents Na5-c4. White is much more active. The black rooks are passive.
20...Kd7



21.Kf2! b6 22.Rc1 Nc4 1.15/22



23.Bxc4 0.78/23

[Better is 23.cxb6! 1.15/22 Nxb6 24.g4]

23...dxc4 24.cxb6 0.41/23

[24.Rbxc4± 0.92/21 Strongly threatening c5xb6. b5 25.Rb4]

24...Bd5!± 25.bxa7 Rxa7 26.a4 h5 27.Bd2 0.03/24

[White should play 27.Kg3± 0.70/23]

27...Rha8= 28.Ra1 Bc6 29.Rxc4 Rxa4 30.Rcxa4 Rxa4 Endgame. KRB-KRB **31.Rb1 Rxd4 32.Bg5 Rd5 33.Bf6 Rb5 34.Rd1+ Bd5 35.Ra1 Rb8 36.Ra7+ Rb7 37.Ra6 Bc6 38.Kg3 Rb8 39.Ra7+ Bb7** 0.43/27

[39...Rb7= 0.06/25 is superior. 40.Ra8 Bd5]

40.Kf4± Black must now prevent Kf4-g5.

40...Kc7 41.Ra3 0.14/25

[Reject 41.Kg5 Ra8 42.Rxa8 Bxa8=]

[41.Ra2± 0.63/23 was preferrable.]

41...Ra8 42.Rc3+ Kd7 43.Rc2 Bd5! The position is equal. **44.Kg5 Ra2 45.Rxa2 Bxa2=** KB-KB **46.g4 Ke8 47.gxh5 gxh5 48.Kxh5** aiming for Kh5-h6. **48...Kf8 49.Kh6** Hoping for Kh6-h7. **49...Kg8 50.f4 Bb1 51.h5 Bc2 52.Be7 Bd3 53.Kg5 Be4 54.Kf6 Bf5 55.Bc5 Be4 56.h6 Bg6 57.Bb4 Bf5 58.Bc5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless)

½-½

D35

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**

■ **Rapport,Richard** **2731**

Gashimov Memorial Rapid 9th (8)

[Kitty Kat]

D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.Bg5 c6 6.cxd5 exd5 7.e3 Be7 8.Bd3 Nh5N

[8...h6 9.Bf4 Nh5 10.Be5 Nxe5 11.dxe5 g6 12.Qc2 Ng7 13.0-0-0 0-0 14.h4 Bg4 15.Kb1 Rc8 16.Ka1 Qc7 17.Ne2 Rfd8 18.Nh2 Bxe2 19.Bxe2 Qxe5 20.Ng4 Qe4 21.Nxh6+ Kf8 22.Bd3 Qe5 23.h5 Dunlap,H (2673)-5. ♘g5 e6 6. ♗d3 ♘gf6 442 (2627) WchT 3rd Luzern 1993 (2.3) 1-0]

[8...0-0 9.0-0 h6 10.Bxf6 Nxf6 11.Ne5 Bd6 12.f4 c5 13.Kh1 cxd4 14.exd4 Qb6 15.Qd2 Bd7 16.Nxd5 Qd8 17.Nxf6+ gxf6 18.f5 Kg7 19.Rf3 Rh8 20.Rg3+ Kf8 21.Nxf7 Kxf7 22.Bc4+ Kf8 23.Rg8+ Bruggemann,H (1737)-6.00 ♗d6 7.b3 ♕e7 8. ♘e5 (1386) Iasi Sadoveanu Memorial 2023 (2) 1-0]

[8...Ne4 9.Bxe4 Bxg5 10.Bd3 *(10.Nxg5 Qxg5 11.Bf3 Nf6 12.b4 a6 13.a4 0-0 14.b5 axb5 15.axb5 Rxa1 16.Qxa1 c5 17.0-0 cxd4 18.exd4 Bg4 19.Bxg4 Qxg4 20.Qa7 h5 21.Qxb7 Qxd4 22.Qc7 Qd2 23.b6 d4 24.Nb1 Qb2* Fight for the Opening Advanta,S (2534)-3. ♘c3 ♘f6 4.e5 de 5. ♘e5 (2599) Dorpat-Tallinn match 1885 (1.4) ½-½ *)* 10...Be7 11.Qc2 g6 12.h4 Nf6 13.Ne5 Be6 14.0-0-0 Bd6 15.Kb1 Qc7 16.f4 0-0-0 17.Rc1 Kb8 18.Qf2 Qe7 19.Rhe1 Rhe8 20.Ka1 Nd7 21.h5 Qf6 22.g4 Bxe5 23.g5 Coelho,L-7. a4 g6 8. ♘f3 ♕c7_57058 57/170 Linares 1993 1-0]

9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Qb1! is more profitable than 11.Qc2 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 11.Dc2. **11...Nhf6 12.b4 a5 13.b5** White is slightly better. **13...c5 14.dxc5N**

[Vorgänger: 14.Rc1 c4 15.Bc2 g6

16.Qb2 Nb6 17.a4 Re8 18.Qa3 Qb4 19.Rcb1 Qxa3 20.Rxa3 Veleski,R (2106)-Averin,N (2296) EU-ch 23rd Vrnjacka Banja 2023 (11) ½-½]

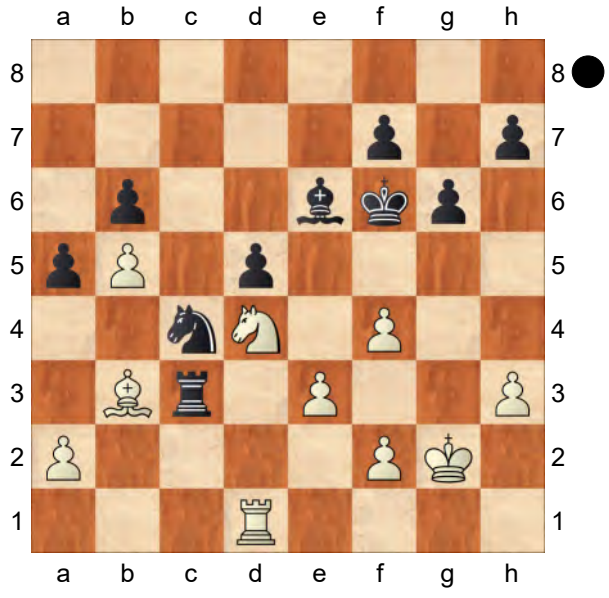
14...Nxc5 15.Nd4 b6 0.56/18
[15...Bd7= 0.17/17]

16.Bc2 0.12/19
[16.Rd1± 0.56/18 is more appropriate.]

16...Bb7= 17.Qb2 Rac8 18.Rac1
[18.Nf5 keeps more tension. Qe5 19.f4 Qc7 20.Ne2]

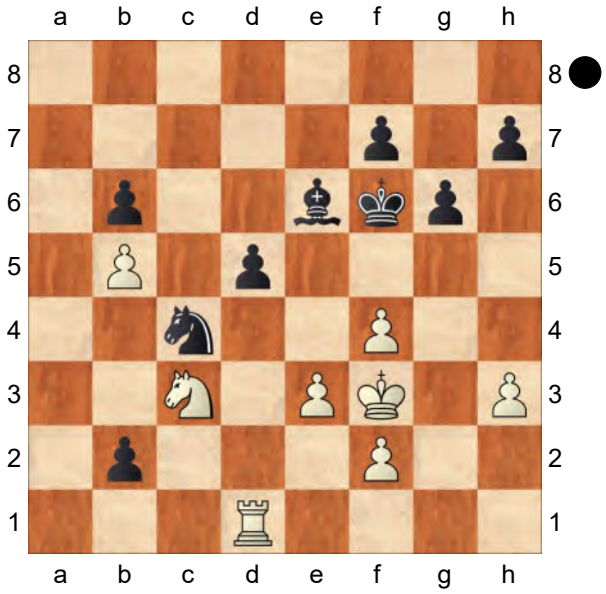
18...g6 Repels Nf5 **19.Rfd1 Rfd8 20.h3 Nfe4 21.Bb1 Qf6 22.Qe2 Kg7** ...Nb3! would now be deadly. **23.Qf3** -0.54/22
[White should play 23.Qe1= 0.07/21]

23...Qxf3∓ 24.gxf3 Nxc3 25.Rxc3 Na4 26.Rxc8 Rxc8 27.Bd3 Kf6 28.Kg2 Rc3 29.Bc2 Nb2 30.Ra1 Bc8 31.f4 Nc4 32.Bb3 Be6 33.Rd1 -0.80/22
[33.Ne2!∓ -0.39/21 Rd3 34.Rc1]



33...a4! 34.Ne2
[34.Bxa4 Nb2 35.Nxe6 Nxd1∓ *(35...fxe6 36.Rd4=)*]

34...Rxb3 35.axb3 axb3 Endgame. KRN-KBN **36.Nc3 b2** Black has strong compensation. **37.Kf3**



Na3 -0.01/20
[37...Bxh3 38.Rxd5 *(38.Nxd5+ Kg7=)* 38...Be6 39.Rd4=]
[37...Bf5!∓ -0.76/22 Strongly threatening ...Ke6. 38.Nxd5+ Kg7]

38.Nb1!= Nc4⇄ Hoping for ...Bf5! Black has counterplay
[38...Nxb5 39.Rd2±]

39.Nc3! g5 -0.01/21
[39...Bxh3 40.Rxd5 *(40.Nxd5+ Kg7=)* 40...Bf5 41.e4∓]
[Black should try 39...Bf5∓ -0.74/21 ...Ke6 is the strong threat. 40.Nxd5+ Ke6 41.Nc7+ Ke7 42.Nd5+ Ke8]

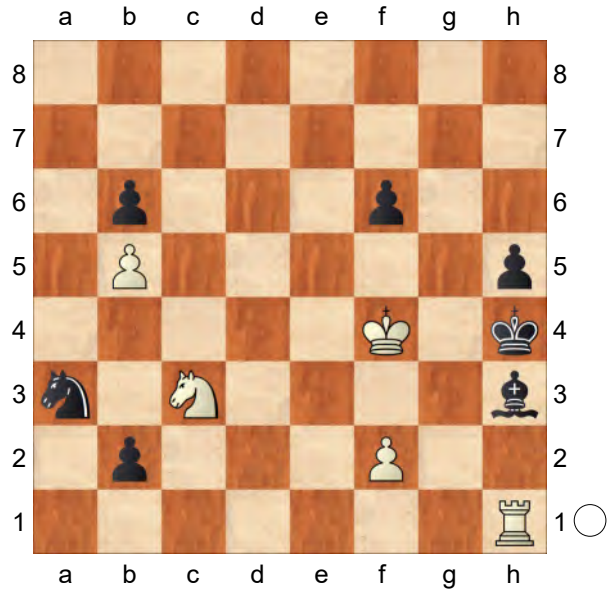
40.e4 -0.41/22
[40.fxg5+= -0.01/21 Kxg5 41.Ke2]

40...dxe4+!∓ 41.Kxe4 Na3 -0.01/22
[41...Bxh3∓ -0.58/23 42.fxg5+ Kxg5 43.Rg1+ Kf6 *(43...Bg4 44.Kd5=)*]

42.fxg5+!= Kxg5 With the idea ...Bf5+.

43.Ke5 Bxh3 44.Rg1+ Kh4 0.46/25
[44...Bg4 45.f3 h5 *(45...f6+? 46.Kd5+-)* 46.fxg4 hxg4 47.Nb1 *(47.Ne4+ Kg6±)* 47...f6+ 48.Ke4 Nxb5 49.Rg2+-]
[44...Kh5= 0.01/28]

45.Kf4± h5? 1.69/27
[45...Be6= 0.01/25]
46.Rh1+- f6

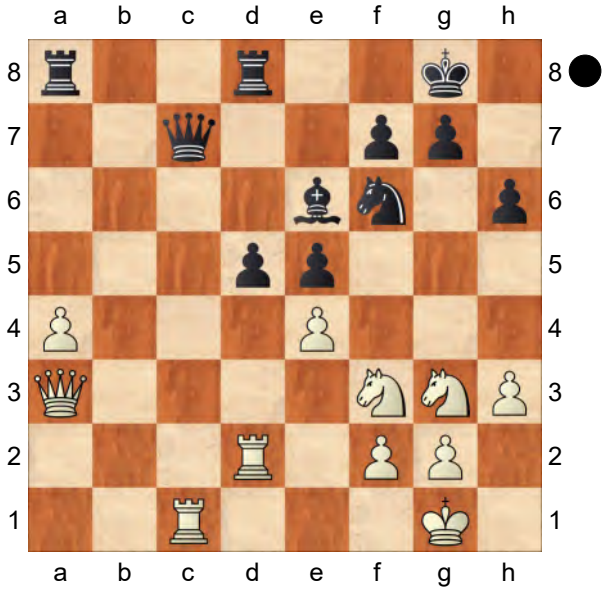


47.Nb1? 0.01/26
[47.f3!± 1.59/25]
47...Nxb5 48.Nd2 Nd4 49.Ke4 0.01/27
[49.Ke3± 0.43/20 deserves consideration. Nc6 50.Nc4]
49...b1Q+?? 3.15/27 White leaves nothing to chance now. **50.Nxb1 Ne6 51.Nd2 Ng5+ 52.Kf4** Black must now prevent Nf3+. **52...b5** 3.71/26
[52...Ne6+ 2.60/25 was called for. 53.Ke3 b5]
53.Nf3+ Nxf3 54.Kxf3± Kf4 would kill now. K R - K B **54...b4 55.Kf4** White threatens Rh2 and mate. **55...b3 56.f3?** 3.26/24
[56.Rh2 9.62/33]
56...b2+- 57.Rg1? 0.90/34
[57.Rb1+- 4.94/36 is the precise move to win. Bd7 58.Rxb2]
57...Be6? 3.94/32
[57...Bd7± 0.90/34 is more resistant.]
58.Rh1+? 0.01/5
[58.Rb1+- 3.94/32]
58...Bh3= 59.Rb1 Bd7 60.Rxb2 Kh3 Prevents Rh2+ **61.Rb7 Ba4 62.Rf7 Kg2 63.Rxf6?** 1.46/28
[63.Ra7+- 5.14/29 Bb3 64.Rb7]
63...h4? 10.55/34
[63...Kf2± 1.46/28]
64.Ra6 Bb3 65.Rb6 Bd5 66.Rb2+ Kh3 67.Rd2 Bb7 68.Rd7 Bc6 69.Rg7 Intending Ke3 and mate. **69...Kh2 70.Ke3** White mates. **70...h3 71.f4 Bg2 72.Kf2 Be4 73.Re7 Bg6 74.Re5 Kh1 75.Kg3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.41
1-0

B40
□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2720**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
Chennai (2) 16.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

B40: Sicilian: 2...e6, Unusual lines
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
[4.c3 dxc3 5.Nxc3 Nc6 6.Bc4 a6 7.0-0 Nge7 8.Bg5 h6 9.Be3 Ng6 10.Nd4 Qc7 11.Rc1 Bd6 12.g3 Be7 13.f4 Bc5 14.Re1 0-0 15.a4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Qb6 17.Ne2 d6 18.Bxc5 dxc5 Paidousis,A (2283)-Cruz,C (2217) GER CupT final_84363 2001 0-1]
4...Nf6
[4...Nc6 5.g3 Qb6 6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nc3 a6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.a4 Ne5 12.Bf4 d6 13.a5 Bd7 B 44/01 2001]
5.Nc3N
[5.Bd3 d6 6.0-0 Be7 7.c4 Nbd7 8.Nc3 a6 9.Be3 Qc7 10.Rc1 b6 11.f3 Bb7 12.Qe1 0-0 13.Qf2 Rac8 14.Rfd1 Qb8 15.Bf1 Bd8 16.b3 Bc7 17.Qh4 Ne5 18.Bg5 Bd8 19.Qh3 Nc6 Chapter-Game Chapter 1-21]

5...Bb4 6.Bd3 0.24/19
[6.e5± 0.60/19 is more appropriate.]
6...d6= 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nce2 Bc5 9.c3 e5 10.Nf3 Be6 11.Ng3 Nbd7 12.Re1 Re8 0.53/21
[12...a6= 0.00/20]
13.Be3 -0.08/20
[13.Ng5± 0.53/21]
13...Qc7 14.Qd2 a6 15.c4 -0.12/20
[⩲15.h3 0.26/20]
15...Nb8 16.h3 Nc6 17.Red1 Bxe3 18.Qxe3 Nb4 19.b3 Red8 20.Qd2 Nxd3 21.Qxd3 h6 22.Rac1 Rab8 23.Qe3 Qa5 24.Rd2 -0.01/21
[24.Nh4± 0.39/21]
24...b5 25.cxb5 axb5 26.Rcd1 Qc7 27.a4 -0.47/22
[White should try 27.Nh2= 0.09/22]
27...bxa4 28.bxa4 Ra8 29.Qa3 d5 -0.01/21
[29...Ne8∓ -0.62/23]
30.Rc1



The position is equal. **30...Rxa4!** Double Attack **31.Rxc7 Rxa3 32.Nxe5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.14 (very precise)
½-½

C54
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2738**
■ **Ma,Qun** **2651**
Shenzhen Longgang 5th (4) 04.03.2024
[Harry Grieve]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.Bg5 This version of the trendy Bg5 Italian lines makes the most sense to me, before White has castled short (in case of ...h6 and ...g5) and only after ...d6 to prevent Black's solid lines dropping the bishop back to e7. Having said that, Black still has many good ways to play. **6...h6 7.Bh4 a6**
[7...g5!? 8.Bg3 a5 still leaves White no real alternatives to castling short: 9.0-0 Ba7 10.Na3⇄]
8.Nbd2 Ba7 9.a4 g5 10.Bg3 Qe7 11.0-0 Nd7
[11...Nh7 is another route for the knight to g6 which can transpose: 12.Kh1! is White's safest and best-scoring plan, preparing Ng1 and f2-f3 to give an escape route for the dark-squared bishop Nf8 13.Ng1 h5 14.f3 Ng6 15.b4±]
12.b4
[12.Kh1! will transpose to the note above]
12...Nf8 **13.d4!?** A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.
13...h5?! A surprising mistake, playing this without ...Ng6 allows a thematic response
[13...Ng6! 14.b5 Na5 15.h3 h5 16.bxa6 *(16.Bd5?! â-â* Firouzja,A (2759)-So,W (2770) Paris GCT Rapid 2021 (1) allows Black to ignore the bxa6 threat: *h4 17.Bh2 g4 18.hxg4 Bxg4 19.bxa6 h3 20.g3 c6∓)* 16...bxa6 17.Bd5 c6 18.dxe5! dxe5 *(18...cxd5 19.exd6∞*

seems promising for White) 19.Nb3! when a sample line continues h4 20.Nxa5 hxg3 21.Bxc6+ Kf8 22.Bxa8 g4 23.Nc6 Bxf2+ 24.Rxf2 gxf2+∞]

14.b5 Nd8?

[14...Na5 15.h4 g4 16.Nxe5 dxe5 17.Bxe5 Rg8∞ the piece sacrifice is still promising but of course Black has better chances than with the knight passive as in the game]

15.h4N

[Vorgänger: 15.h3 Ng6 16.Bd5 g4 17.hxg4 hxg4 18.Nh2 exd4 19.Nc4 dxc3 20.b6 Bxb6 21.Nxb6 cxb6 0-1 (44) So,W (2753)-Gukesh,D (2758) Berlin 2023]

15...g4 16.Nxe5!

[16.Ne1 Ng6 17.Nd3 0-1 Kosteniuk,A (2546)-Barp,A (2424) Titled Tuesday intern op 2nd April blitz 2019 (10) Nxh4 18.dxe5± even this way of playing is promising with Black's knight passive on d8]

16...dxe5 17.Bxe5 Rg8 18.Bg3 Ng6 19.Bd3

[19.e5! preparing Ne4 is logical. Arjun must have been worried about Bf5 when 20.Qe1! Nxh4 21.f3! opens lines with devastating effect: Nxf3+ 22.gxf3 gxf3 23.Kh1+-]

19...Nxh4 20.e5 Kf8 21.Ne4 Nf5?!

[21...Ng6 22.Nf6 h4! 23.Nxg8?! Kxg8 24.Bh2 h3⇄ succeeds in opening the kingside, since White can hardly play g3]

22.Nf6 Rh8 23.Qd2 Nxg3

[23...h4 24.Bf4+- now only helps White with Bxf5 threatened]

24.fxg3 Qxe5 25.Rae1

[25.Bh7! is apparently cleaner, preventing the sacrifice in the game Qd6 26.Qh6+ Ke7 27.Rae1+ Be6 28.Qg7 Rf8 29.Qg5+-]

25...Bxd4+ 26.cxd4 Qxd4+ 27.Rf2 Ne6 28.Re4 Qd6 29.Qc3 Rh6 30.bxa6 bxa6 31.Bc4 Rb8 32.Re1 Rb4 33.Ne4 Qb6 34.a5 Rxc4

Black continues to find strong defensive resources to get back into the game

35.Qd2

[35.Qxc4 Qd4 36.Qc1 Kg7 is also winning but coming up with a plan is less simple]

35...Qxf2+ 36.Qxf2 Nd4 37.Ng5 Nf5 38.Ne4?! Arjun begins to lose the thread of the game as he struggles to coordinate his pieces playing with the extra queen.

[38.Qd2 Nd6 39.Rf1 looks like the best setup, threatening Nxf7 to start with.]

38...Rhc6 39.Qb2 Rd4 40.Qb8 Rd8 41.Rf1 Re8 42.Qb4+ Re7 43.Nc3 Be6 44.Nd5 Bxd5 45.Rxf5 Rc4 46.Qa3 Be6 47.Rxh5 Ke8 48.Rh8+ Kd7 49.Qd3+ Kc6 50.Rh6 Rc1+?

Playing for counterplay against the White king, but a simpler approach was stronger

[50...Kb5! Black can cover his king from all angles: 51.Rh5+ c5 52.Rh8 Rb7∞ and any result is possible if the a5-pawn falls]

51.Kh2 Rd7 52.Qxa6+ Kc5 53.Rh5+!

Just in time to prevent Rdd1 and trade pieces **53...Rd5 54.Rxd5+ Bxd5 55.Qd3?**

[55.Qa7+ Kd6 56.Qb8! Ra1 57.Qb4++- Collects the g4-pawn with check since Kc6? 58.Qc3++- is worse.]

55...Rc4 56.Qd1 Bc6? Keeping control of the queening square, but now White manages to protect the pawn on a7.

[56...Be6 keeps everything defended

and White's pawn should not be able to advance further: 57.a6 Kb6=]

57.a6 Ra4

[57...Kb6 58.Qb3+ Bb5 59.a7+- is the problem.]

58.a7 Ra6 59.Qb3 f5 60.Kg1 Bb5 61.Qe3+ Kd5 62.Kf2 c5 63.Qe7 Bc6 64.Ke3 Kc4 65.Qe6+ Kb5 66.Qb3+ Ka5 67.Qb8 Bxg2 68.Kd3 Rb6 69.Kc4! Rb4+ 70.Kxc5

1-0

E24

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
■ **Sjugirov,Sanan** **2703**
Chennai (7) 21.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

E24: Nimzo-Indian: Sämisch: Unusual Black 5th moves and 5...c5 sidelines

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.e4 d6 8.Ne2 h6N 0.37/19

[Black should try 8...Na5= -0.17/20]

[8...b6 9.Ng3 *(9.Bg5 h6 10.Bh4 Na5 11.Nc1 Ba6 12.Nb3 Bxc4 13.Nxa5 Bxf1 14.dxc5 Ba6 15.Nc6 Qd7 16.Qxd6 bxc5 17.Rd1 Rc8 18.Qg3 Nh5 19.Rxd7 Nxg3 20.Re7+ Kf8 21.Bxg3 Rxc6 22.Rxa7 Kg8 23.Kf2 f6* Mulyar,M (2269)-Kapischka,J (2453) Paris Apsap op 74th 2004 (8) 1-0 *)* 9...0-0 10.Be2 Ba6 11.0-0 Na5 12.f4 cxd4 13.cxd4 Bxc4 14.f5 h6 15.Bxc4 Nxc4 16.Rb1 e5 17.d5 Rc8 18.Nh5 Na5 19.Rb4 Rc3 20.Bd2 Rd3 21.Qc2 Rxa3 22.Nxg7 Kxg7 23.Qc1 Grube,J (2764)-Ronneland,D (2678) Cheliabinsk Lozovatsky Memorial-A 2023 (2.1) 0-1 Rd3 24.Bxh6+ Kh7 25.Bg5 Rg8 26.h4 Nb3 27.Qe1 Nc5 28.Kh1 a5 29.Rc4 b5 30.Rc3 Rxc3 31.Qxc3 Ncxe4 32.Qe3 Qc8 33.Rf3 Qc2 Grube,J (2764)-Ronneland,D (2678) KAZ-ch Semey 2022 (2.1) 0-1]

9.Ra2 Qa5 10.Kf2 The position is equal. **10...Qc7 11.d5 Ne5** 0.38/20

[11...Na5= -0.01/22 is superior.]

12.Ng3± 0-0 13.a4 Qa5 14.Qc2 Qa6 15.Ra3 Re8 16.Qa2 Qa5 17.Be2 Ng6 18.Rd1 e5 19.Bd3 Nh7 20.Nf5 Qd8 21.g3 Repels Ng6-f4 **21...Ne7 22.Kg2 h5 23.Ne3 Rf8 24.Qb1 Bd7 25.Ra2**

[25.Qxb7 Rb8 26.Qxa7 Ra8=]

25...h4 1.18/21 **26.Nf5**

[26.gxh4?! Ng6=]

[26.Qxb7?! Rb8 27.Qxa7 hxg3=]

26...Nxf5 27.exf5 Qf6 28.g4 0.75/20

[28.Qxb7 Bxf5 29.Bxf5 Qxf5∓]

[⌓28.gxh4 1.21/21 Kg2-h1 would now be deadly . Kh8 *(28...Qxh4 29.Kh1±)* 29.Kh1]

28...Rab8 1.42/22

[⌓28...g6 0.75/20]

29.Rf1 Kh8 1.74/20

[29...b6± 1.29/21 was called for. 30.Qc2 g5]

30.h3 Rg8 31.a5 Qe7 2.99/19

[31...Rge8± 1.52/21 32.Be3 b6]

32.Rb2 Bc8 3.42/23

[⌓32...Qf6 2.04/20 33.Bd2 *(33.Rxb7 Rxb7 34.Qxb7 Bc8±)* 33...b6 34.axb6 axb6 35.Rxb6 Rxb6 36.Qxb6 Rf8]

33.Be3 And now f5-f6! would win.

33...Qd8 34.Qe1 Qxa5 35.f6

[35.Qxh4 Qxc3 36.Rd2 b5=]

35...g6 36.Rb5 0.61/21

[36.Qxh4 Qxc3 37.Rd2 b5±]

[White should play 36.Bh6+- 2.03/19]

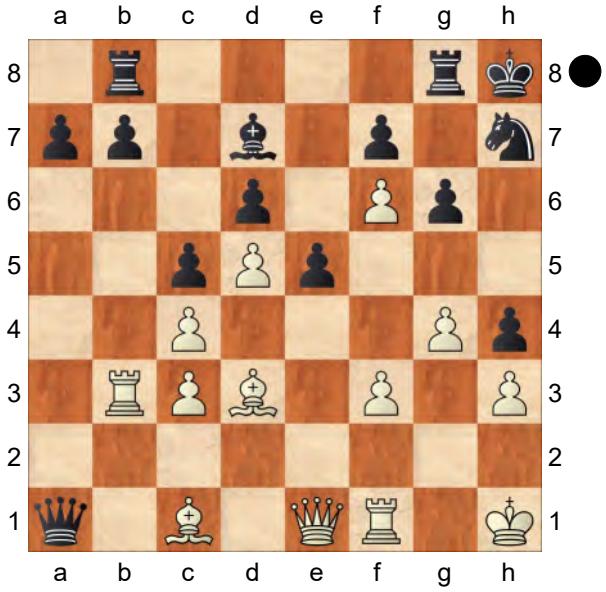
36...Qa3? 2.57/21

[36...Qd8± 0.61/21]

37.Bc1

[37.Qxh4 Qxc3 38.Rd1 Bd7±]

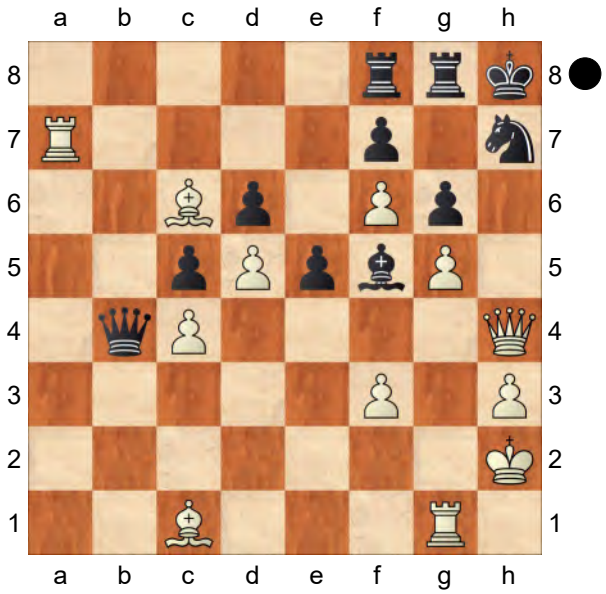
37...Qa1 38.Kh1
[38.Qxh4?! Qxc3 39.Rd1 a6±]
38...Bd7 39.Rb3
[39.Rb1?! Qa5 40.Bh6 *(40.Qxh4 Qxc3 41.Rd1 Ba4±)* 40...Qd8±]



Strongly threatening Rb3-a3. **39...Qa5 40.Qxh4 Qd8** Black is weak on the dark squares **41.g5 Bf5 42.Be2 a6 43.Rg1** 1.27/17
[43.f4+- 1.79/19]
43...b5 1.72/18 **44.cxb5+- axb5 45.Bxb5 Qa5 46.c4 Ra8 47.Bc6 Rab8** 2.44/20
[47...Ra7 1.67/19 might work better. 48.Kh2 *(48.Ra3 Qb6±)* 48...Qa2+ 49.Rb2 Qa1]
48.Ra3 Qb4 49.Ra7 Rbf8 50.Kh2

(Diagram)

Black must now prevent Bc6-e8!
50...Qc3 51.Qf2 e4 52.Bf4 exf3 53.Bxd6 Rb8 54.Bb5? 1.06/22
Active counter play! A strong pair of Bishops.
[54.Qxc5 Rb2+ *(54...f2? 55.Bg3-+; 54...f2? 55.Ra3-+)*]



[54.Bxb8+- 2.86/22 Rxb8 55.Bb5 *(55.Rxf7? Rb2-+)* 55...Qe5+ 56.Kh1 Bxh3 57.Qxf3 *(57.Qxc5 Nxg5 58.Qf2 Qxf6=)* 57...Nxg5 58.Rxg5 Remove Defender Qxg5 59.Qxh3+ Kg8 60.Qf3]
54...Rbe8? 6.43/20 **55.Bxe8** White is clearly winning.
[55.Rxf7? Re2-+]
55...Rxe8 56.Re7
[56.Rxf7? is the wrong capture. Re2 *(56...Qxc4?* loses. *57.Re7+-)* 57.Rf1 Nxg5-+ *(57...Rxf2+? 58.Rxf2 Nxg5 59.Rc7-+; 57...Qxc4? 58.Re7-+)*]
56...Ra8 57.Rge1
Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/Black=0.35
[57.Qxc5? perishes. f2 58.Qe3 Qxe3 *(58...fxg1B+? 59.Kxg1 Qxe3+* Remove Defender *60.Rxe3-+)* 59.Rxe3 fxg1R *(59...fxg1B+? 60.Kxg1 Nxg5 61.Kh2-+; 59...fxg1N? 60.h4-+; 59...fxg1Q+? 60.Kxg1 Nxg5 61.Bc7-+)* 60.Kxg1-+ Nxg5-+]
1-0

B33

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2780**
FIDE Grand Swiss (11) 05.11.2023
[Kitty Kat]

B33: Sicilian: Pelikan and Sveshnikov Variations

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nb5 d6 6.N1a3 a6 7.Nc3 Be6 8.Nc4 Nf6 8...Rb8 is becoming the main line. 8...Tb8 wird zur Hauptvariante.

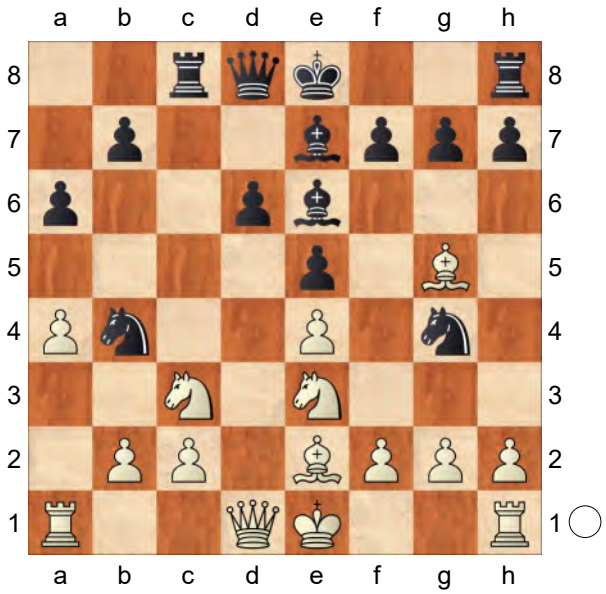
[8...Rb8 9.g3 Nf6 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.Ne3 h5 13.h4 g6 14.Bg2 Bh6 15.Ncd5 Qd8 16.0-0 0-0 17.a4 Kg7 18.Qd3 f5 19.exf5 gxf5 20.f4 e4 21.Qe2 Bxd5 22.Nxd5 Qe8 23.Rfd1 10.♖d1 b5 11.♗e2 7452 (1933)-Wozniak,K (2199) 89/89 Wijk aan Zee 2004 (3) ½-½]

9.a4N

[9.Bg5 Rb8 10.Nd5 Bxd5 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.Qxd5 Nb4 13.Qd2 d5 14.exd5 Rd8 15.Ne3 Bc5 16.c4 Qg6 17.a3 Bxe3 18.Qxb4 Bd4 19.0-0-0 Rd6 20.Bd3 Qg5+ 21.Qd2 Qxg2 22.Rhg1 Qxh2 23.Rxg7 Rf6 15.♘c4 0-0 16.♕e5 ♖ab8 (2707)-11.♗e2 a5 12.♗e3 (2422) 4/359 Palma de Mallorca 1967 (1) ½-½ 24.Rf1 Rxf2 25.Rxf2 Qxf2 26.Qxf2 Bxf2 27.b4 b6 28.d6 Be3+ 29.Kc2 Kd7 30.Rxf7+ Kxd6 31.Bxh7 Ke6 32.Ra7 Kf6 33.Be4 Kg5 34.Rxa6 Kf4 35.Bd5 Bd4 36.Ra7 Rh3 37.Rf7+ Kg5 38.Rg7+ Kf4 15.♘c4 0-0 16.♕e5 ♖ab8 (2707)-11. ♗e2 a5 12. ♗e3 (2422) USCCC-1 Final 7476 1974 (1) ½-½]

9...Rc8 10.Bg5 Nb4 11.Ne3 Be7 12.Be2 Ng4

(Diagram)



Discovered Attack **13.Bxg4N**

[Vorgänger: 13.Bxe7 Nxe3 14.Bxd8 Nxd1 15.Rxd1 Rxd8 16.Rd2 Ke7 17.0-0 d5 18.Nxd5+ Nxd5 19.exd5 Rxd5 Pijl,R (2358)-Halwick,F (2380) IECG WC.2003.F.00002 email ½-½]

[13.Bxe7 simplifies Nxe3 14.Bxd8 Nxd1 15.Kxd1 Kxd8 16.a5]

13...Bxg5 14.Bxe6 fxe6 15.Qg4 Qf6

[Not 15...Bxe3? 16.Qxe6+ Qe7 *(16...Kf8 17.fxe3 g6 18.0-0+ Kg7 19.Rf7+ Kh6 20.Qh3+ Kg5 21.Raf1)* 17.Qxc8++-]

16.0-0 0-0 17.Rad1 Qe7 18.Qe2 Nc6 -0.24/23

[18...h6∓ -0.60/19]

19.Qd3 Nd4 20.Ne2 Bxe3 21.fxe3 Rxf1+ 22.Rxf1 Nc6 23.Qd2 Rd8 24.Qc3 Qc7 25.Rd1 Qb6 26.Rd3 Qb4 27.Qxb4 Nxb4= Endgame. KRN-KRN **28.Rc3 Nc6 29.Nc1 Kf8 30.Nd3 Ke8 31.b4** -0.42/26

[31.Kf2= -0.04/22]

31...Rc8 32.a5 Kd7 33.Kf1 Rb8 34.Ke2 The position is equal. **34...b6 35.axb6 Rxb6 36.Rb3 d5 37.c3 Kd6 38.Ra3 a5! 39.bxa5**

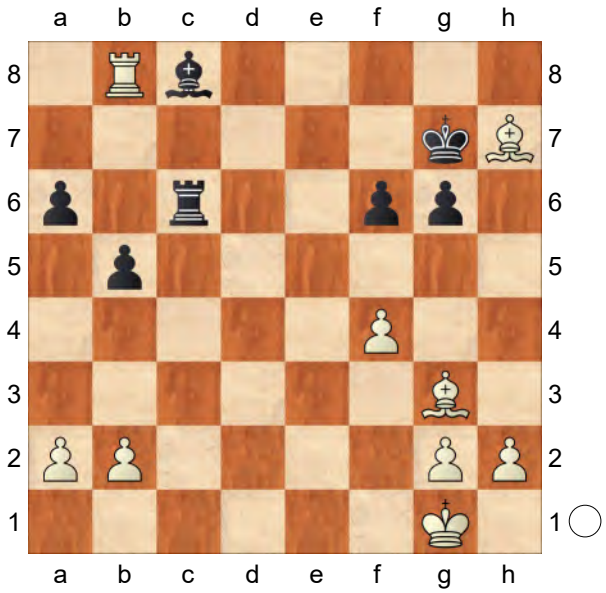
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06

(flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
½-½

D50

□ **Harikrishna,Pentala** **2696**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
Chennai (1) 15.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

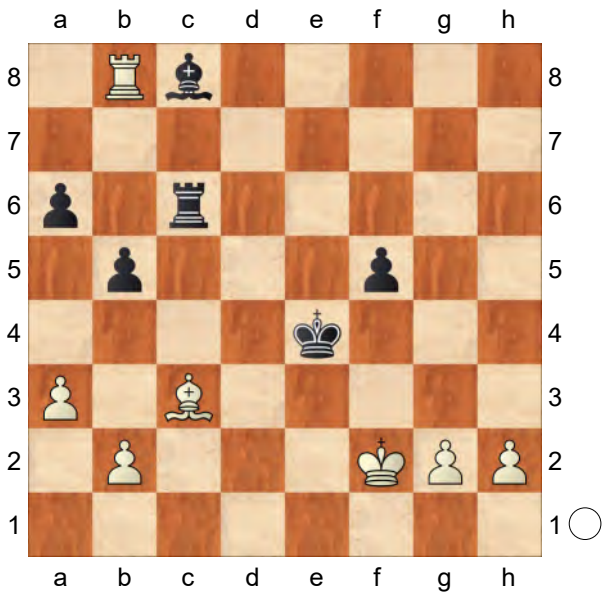
D50: Queen's Gambit Declined: Dutch-Peruvian Gambit
RR: 'Inf 78/(32)' This game was played a month after the previous one. **1.d4** 8 **Nf6** 10 **2.c4** 7 **e6** 5 **3.Nc3** 15 **d5** 55
[3...c5 4.Nf3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Ndb5 d5 7.Bf4 e5 8.cxd5 exf4 9.dxc6 bxc6 10.Qxd8+ Kxd8 11.Rd1+ Bd7 12.Nd6 Bxd6 13.Rxd6 Rb8 14.b3 Rb4 15.g3 Ke7 16.Rd2 h5 17.Bg2 h4 18.0-0 Georgiev,K (2677)-Topalov,V (2702) Sarajevo 78/(32) 2000]
4.Bg5N 1:26
[4.Nf3 c5 5.Bf4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Nbd7 7.Qa4 Bc5 8.Nb3 0-0 9.Nxc5 Nxc5 10.Qa3 b6 11.Rd1 Bb7 12.e3 Qe7 13.Bg3 Rfd8 The Semi Tarrasch-5.Bf4 _5569 2021]
[4.Bf4 c6 5.c5 b6 6.b4 a5 7.a3 b5 8.e3 Be7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.h3 Nbd7 11.Nf3 Re8 12.0-0 Nf8 13.Ne5 Bd7 14.Qc2 Ng6 15.Bh2 Nf8 16.Rfb1 Rc8 17.a4 axb4 18.Rxb4 bxa4 Kamil'S Games-Plichta,K Lifetime Repertoires: Plichta's Queen's 2023 1-0]
4...dxc4 49 **5.e3** 38 **c5** 23 **6.dxc5** 4:51 **Qxd1+** 8:32 **7.Rxd1** 22 **Bxc5** 7 **8.Bxc4** 1:07 The position is equal. **8...a6** 7 Prevents Nc3-b5 **9.Nge2** 10:05 **Nbd7** 3:34 **10.Bd3** 4:55 **b5** 2:49 **11.Ne4** 2:35 **Bb4+** 5:48 **12.N2c3** 43 **Nxe4** 5:07 **13.Bxe4** 11 **Ra7** 4 **14.0-0** 5:01 **f6** 5:10 **15.Bf4** 3:12 **Bxc3** 0.68/22 44
[15...Kf7= -0.20/20]
16.Rc1± 1:34 Pin
[16.bxc3 e5 17.Bg3 Nc5∓]
16...e5 1.06/22 12:41
[16...Kf7± 0.68/20 17.Rxc3 Nb6]
17.Rxc3± 11 **Ke7** 7 **18.Bg3** 1:16 And now f2-f4 would win. **18...Nb6** 1:50 **19.f4** 9:31 **exf4** 4:07 **20.exf4** 8:57
[20.Rxf4?! Be6±]
20...Kf7 35 Black is weak on the dark squares **21.Rfc1** 3:40 **Re7** 9:34 **22.Rc7** 24 **Rhe8** 15:03 **23.Bxh7** 9:55 Hoping for Rc7xe7+. White is much more active. A strong pair of Bishops. **23...g6** 50 **24.R1c6** 1:54 Rc7xe7+ is the strong threat. **24...Kg7** 2:45 **25.Rxe7+** 3:22 **Rxe7** 10 **26.Rxb6** 27 **Re6** 1:50 **27.Rb8** 6:04 **Rc6** 6



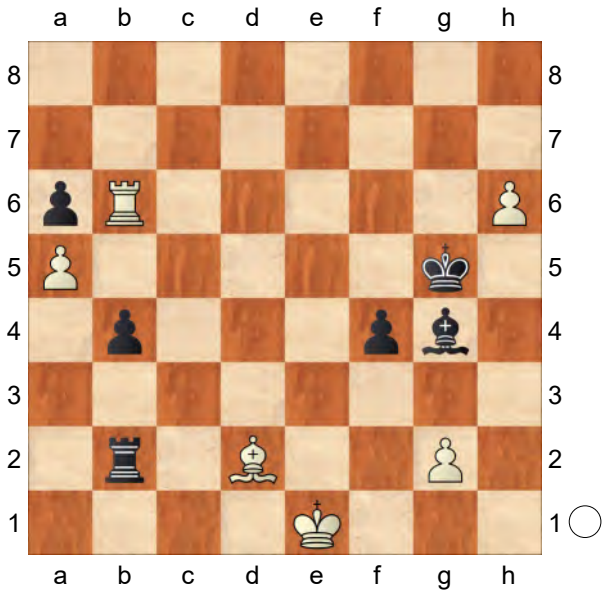
28.Bxg6! 6 **Kxg6** 4 Endgame. KRB-KRB **29.Be1** 1:39 **Kf5** 2:47 **30.Bc3** 8:23 **Kxf4** 38 **31.Kf2** 11 **f5** 1:47 **32.a3** 19 **Ke4** 56

(Diagram)

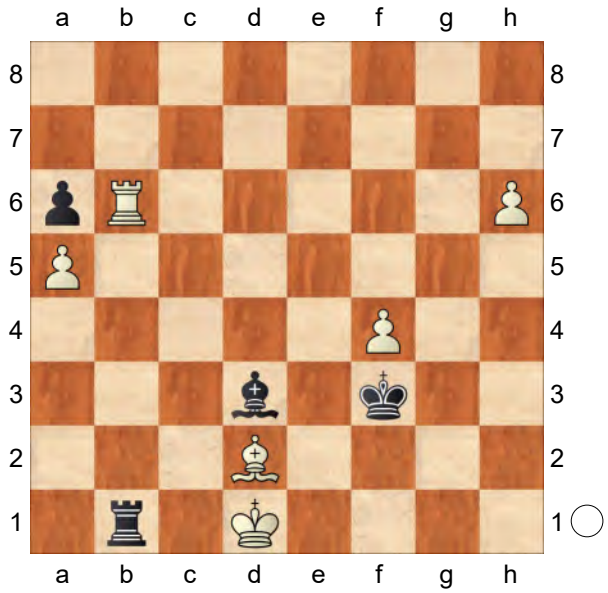
33.a4! 1:05 **Rc5** 2:23



[33...bxa4 34.Rb4+]
34.a5 2:23 **f4** 1:12 **35.Rb6** 1:00 **Rc4** 7
36.h4 1:38 **b4** 1.08/25 5:12 **37.Bd2** 41
Kf5 1.36/23 1:01 Inhibits h4-h5.
[⌓37...Bg4 0.99/24 38.g3 *(38.Bxb4 Rc2+ 39.Kg1 Bh5+-)* 38...Kf5]
38.h5 3:02 **Rc2** 2:03 **39.Ke2** 58 **Kg5** 38
40.h6 2:19
[40.Rxb4 Bg4+ 41.Ke1 Kxh5±]
40...Bg4+ 26 **41.Ke1** 30:03 **Rxb2** 30:05



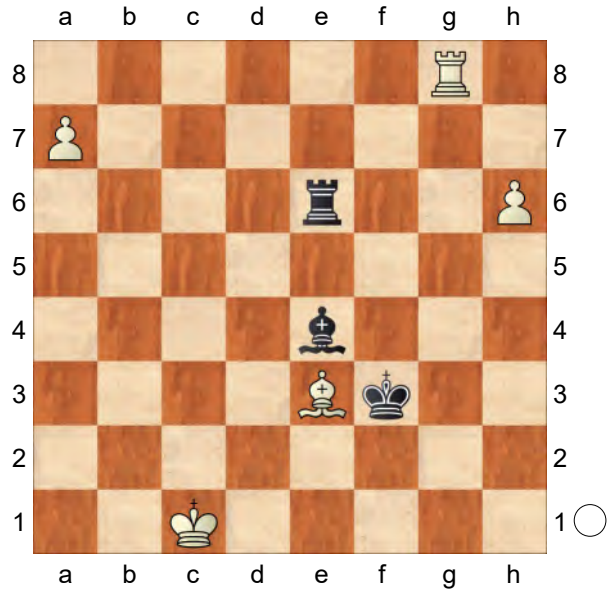
42.g3! 1:36
[42.Rxb4?! Rxb4 43.Bxb4 Kxh6±]
[42.Bxb4 Rxg2 43.Be7+ *(43.Rxa6 Re2+ 44.Kf1 f3=)* 43...Kf5±]
42...Bf5 1:11 **43.gxf4+** 49 **Kg4** 28
44.Bxb4 29
[44.Rxb4?! Rxb4 45.Bxb4 Kxf4=]
44...Kf3 1:37 **45.Kd1** 1:07 **Bd3** 1.66/23 4:46
[45...Ra2± 1.23/20 was called for. 46.Rf6 *(46.Rxa6 Ke3+-)* 46...Bd3]
46.Bd2+- 20 **Rb1+** 56



47.Bc1! 9 **Be4** 3.25/22 30
[47...Bf5± 1.21/21 keeps fighting. 48.Rf6 *(48.Rxa6 Ra1+-)* 48...Rb5 49.Rxa6 Rc5]
48.Rxa6 1.89/20 45
[⌓48.f5 3.25/22 Bxf5 49.Rf6 *(49.Rxa6 Rb7+-)*]
48...Rb5 5 **49.Ra7?** 0.51/23 1:46
[Better is 49.f5+- 2.06/19 Rxf5 50.Bd2]
49...Rh5± 14 **50.f5** 39 **Rxf5** 3.36/22 1:20
[50...Rh1+± 0.37/20 51.Kd2 Rxh6]
51.a6 31 **Rf6** 26 **52.Bg5** 48 **Rd6+** 8
53.Kc1 26 aiming for Ra7-f7+. **53...Bg6** 1:22 **54.Ra8** 29 **Kg4** 5.37/23 24
[⌓54...Rc6+ 3.47/23 55.Kb2 Rb6+ 56.Ka2 Bf5]
55.Be3 18 **Re6?** 8.47/24 29

[55...Rc6+ 3.70/20 56.Kb2 Rc2+ 57.Kb3 Re2]

56.Rg8+- 42 **Kf3** 41 **57.a7** 38 **Be4** 7



58.h7! 28 **Rc6+** 5 **59.Kb2** 25 **Rc2+** 9 **60.Kb3** 24 **Rh2** 8 **61.h8Q** 25

Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.27 (precise)

[61.h8B Bd5+ 62.Kc3 Kxe3 63.Re8+ *(63.a8B Bxg8 64.Bd4+ Ke2=; 63.a8Q Bxa8 64.Rxa8 Ke4±)* 63...Kf3+-]

1-0

A13

□ **Eljanov,Pavel** **2691**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
Chennai (4) 18.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

A13: English Opening: 1...e6

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3 d4 5.0-0 Nc6 6.d3 Bc5 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Nb3 Be7 White is slightly better. **9.h3 e5 10.e3 a5** Hoping for ...a5-a4. **11.exd4 exd4 12.a4 Ra6N**

[12...Bb4 13.Bf4 Re8 14.g4 h5 15.g5 Nh7 16.Bd2 Bf5 17.Nc1 Qd7 18.Bxb4 Nxb4 19.h4 Nf8 20.Qd2 Ng6 21.Nb3 Bxd3 22.Nc5 Qg4 23.Nxd3 Nxd3 24.Nh2 Qf5 25.Rad1 Ndf4 26.Qxd4 Ne2+ Assmann,J (1877)-Boos,M (1758) corr OS-167 BdF-Schachserver 2011 0-1]

13.Re1 Bb4 14.Bd2 Rb6 15.Bxb4 Rxb4 16.Ra3 Qd6 17.Qd2 aiming for c4-c5. **17...Nd7 18.Ng5 Rb6** 0.65/20

[18...b6= 0.00/19]

19.Bd5 0.19/22 White is much more active.

[19.Nxa5 Nxa5 20.Qxa5 Rxb2∓]
[19.Ne4± 0.65/20 Qb4 20.Qe2]

19...Ne7 0.60/20

[19...Qb4= 0.19/22 might be stronger.]

20.Bg2 -0.01/19

[20.Nxa5 Nxd5 21.cxd5 Qxd5-+]
[20.Bh1± 0.60/20]

20...Nc6= 21.Ne4

[Much worse is 21.Nxa5 Nxa5 22.Qxa5 Rxb2∓]

21...Qb4 22.c5 Ra6 23.Rc1 -0.19/21

[23.Qc1± 0.33/20 b5 24.axb5 Qxb5 25.Qc4 Qxc4 26.dxc4]

23...Qxd2 24.Nbxd2 -0.66/20

[White should play 24.Nexd2= -0.05/21 Nde5 25.Rd1]

24...Rd8∓ 25.f4 Nb4 26.g4

(Diagram)

h5! 27.gxh5 -0.99/20

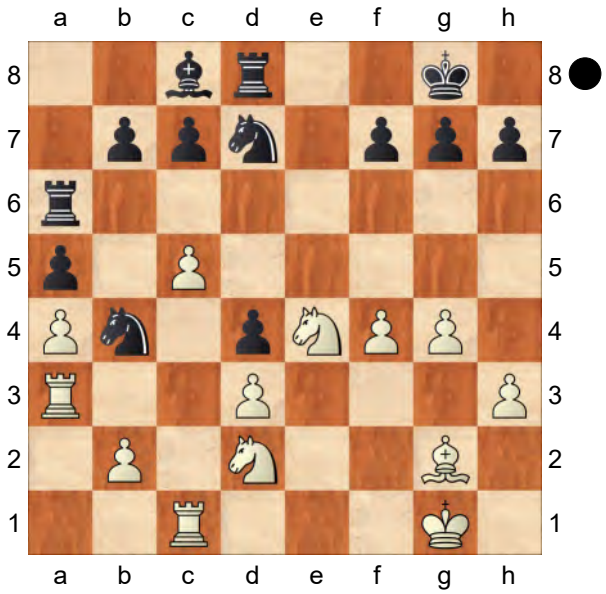
[27.Rb3∓ -0.35/19]
[27.Nc4 hxg4]

27...Nd5 -0.62/20

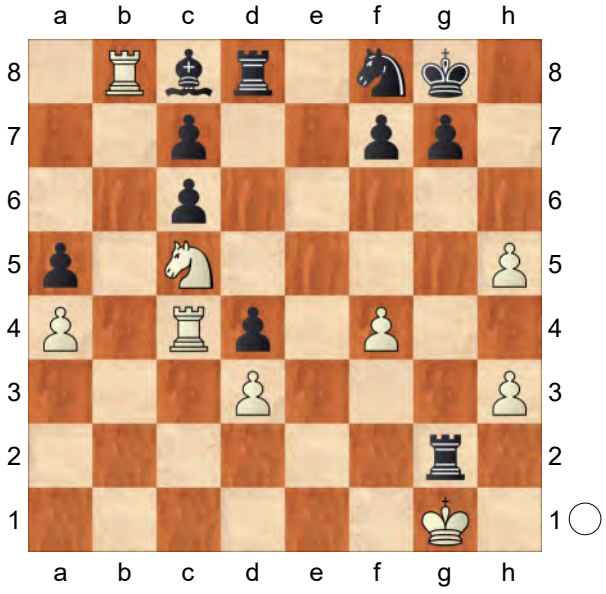
[27...Nf8∓ -0.99/20 28.Nc4 Bf5]

28.c6 -1.26/23 **bxc6 29.Rf1 Ne3 30.Rc1 Nf8 31.Nc5** Inhibits Nf8-e6. **31...Rb6 32.Nc4 Nxc4 33.Rxc4 Rxb2** -0.48/22

[33...Be6∓ -1.04/21 34.Rc2 Rdb8]



34.Rb3! Ra2 0.01/24
[34...Rxb3∓ -0.36/24 35.Nxb3 Ba6 *(35...Be6 36.Rxd4 Rxd4* Remove Defender *37.Nxd4∓)* 36.Rxc6 Bxd3 37.Nxa5 Be2]
35.Rb8!= The position is equal.
35...Rxg2+



Remove Defender **36.Kxg2 Bxh3+!**
Discovered Attack **37.Kxh3 Rxb8**
Endgame. KRN-KRN **38.Kg4 f6 39.Rxd4 Kf7 40.Rc4 Ke7 41.Kf5 Rd8 42.Kg4 Rd5 43.Re4+ Kf7 44.Rc4 f5+ 45.Kf3 Ke7 46.d4 Nd7 47.Nb7 Nf6 48.Rxc6 Rxd4 49.Rxc7+ Ke6 50.Rxg7** And now Nb7-c5+ would win. **50...Nxh5 51.Rg6+ Ke7 52.Rg5 Rxf4+ 53.Ke3 Re4+ 54.Kf3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
½-½

B33
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
■ **Predke,Alexandr** **2689**
Chennai (3) 17.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

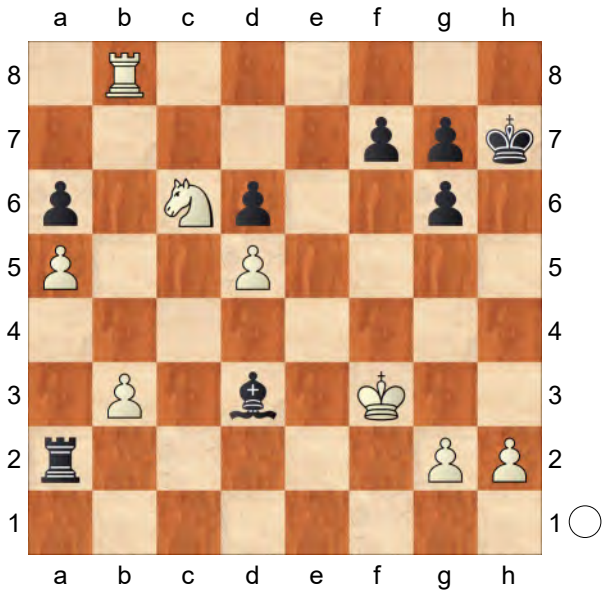
B33: Sicilian: Pelikan and Sveshnikov Variations
1.e4 6 **c5** 2:01 **2.Nf3** 8 **Nc6** 8 **3.d4** 5 **cxd4** 7 **4.Nxd4** 4 **Nf6** 8 **5.Nc3** 6 **e5** 2:08 **6.Ndb5** 10 **d6** 9 **7.Nd5** 5 **Nxd5** 9 **8.exd5** 6 **Ne7** 10 **9.c3** 11 **Nf5** 1:10 **10.a4** 15 **Be7** 9:04 **11.Bd3** 14 **0-0** 4:45 **12.0-0** 8 **Nh4** 9:01 **13.f4** 10:11 **a6** 10:24 **14.Na3** 17 **exf4** 17 **15.Bxf4** 1:07 **Ng6** 2:15 **16.Bxg6** -0.01/21 25:27
[16.Be3± 0.54/19]
16...hxg6= 37 **17.Nc4** 6 Repels Qd8-b6+ **17...Qc7** 9:16 The position is equal.
18.b3 4:35
[18.Qb3 Qc5+ 19.Kh1 Qxd5 20.Rad1 Qc6 21.Nxd6 Bh3 22.Rd2 Bxd6 23.Bxd6 Be6 24.Qd1 Rfd8 25.Rd4 Rd7 26.Be5 Rad8 27.Rxd7 Rxd7 28.Bd4 Rd5 29.b4 Rg5 30.Rf2 Bd5 31.Qd2 Qxa4 32.Qxg5 Qd1+ Apicella,M (2539)-Svidler,P (2733) FRA Cup final 2004 (1) ½-½]
18...b6N 5:55
[18...Bf5 19.a5 Be4 20.Re1 f5 21.Qd2 Rae8 22.Rad1 Qd8 23.Re2 g5 24.Bg3 g4 25.Bf4 Rf6 26.Qd4 Rg6 27.Rde1 Bf6 28.Qd2 Bh4 29.g3 Be7 30.b4 Rf6

Italian Sidelines,E (2540)-11. ♗e3 ♖g8 (2430) corr Norwegen Meiterschaft 2004 ½-½]

19.Be3 -0.19/20 23:21
[⌓19.Qd4 0.24/21]
19...Rb8 14 **20.Bd4** 6 **Bg5** 6:20 **21.Nd2** 7:09 **Re8** 2:19 **22.c4** -0.46/20 1:49
[22.Re1= -0.07/21 Bf5 23.Nf3]
22...Be3+∓ 2:44 **23.Bxe3** 6 **Rxe3** 3 **24.Re1** 8:17 **Qc5** 2:11 **25.Kh1** 6 **Bf5** 1:03 Repels Nd2-e4. Strongly threatening ...Rb8-e8. **26.Nf3** -1.16/21 1:31
[26.Rxe3∓ -0.54/23 Qxe3 27.Qe1]
26...Bg4? 0.98/22 16:21
[26...Rd3!∓ -1.16/21 stays on course. 27.Qe2 Rxb3]
27.Rxe3± 49 **Qxe3** 4 **28.Qd4** 6 **Qxd4** 1:01 **29.Nxd4±** 4 Endgame. KRB-KRN
29...Bd7 18 **30.a5** 0.01/23 2:37
[30.h4± 0.82/22]
30...b5!= 18 **31.cxb5** 11
[31.Nc6 Bxc6 32.dxc6 bxc4 33.bxc4 Rc8-+]
31...Bxb5 4 **32.Kg1** 51 **Bd3** 46 **33.Ra4** -0.92/21 1:01
[33.Rc1= -0.01/25]
33...Re8 0.46/23 1:19
[Black should play 33...Rb7∓ -0.92/21 34.Kf2 Be4]
34.Rb4!± 58 **Re1+** 4:55 **35.Kf2** 5 **Re5** 3 **36.Nc6** 2:23 **Re2+** 41 **37.Kf3** 17 **Ra2** 3:27 **38.Rb8+** 5:02 **Kh7** 3

(Diagram)

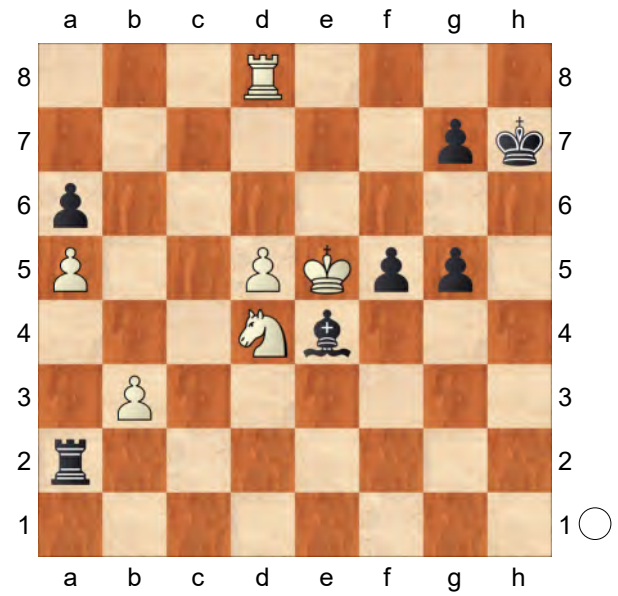
39.Rd8 -0.01/23 55
[39.Nb4!± 1.26/22 Be2+ 40.Ke3]
39...f5 0.58/24 1:18
[39...Bf1= -0.01/23 40.Rxd6 Bxg2+ 41.Kg3 Bh1]
40.Rxd6 5 Hoping for g2-g3. **40...Be4+** 3
41.Kf4 33:39 And now g2-g3 would win.



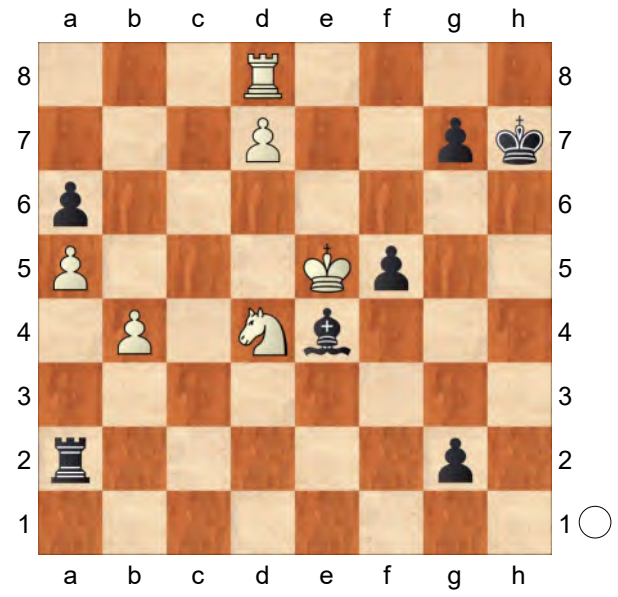
41...Rxg2 1.20/24 30:44
[Black should try 41...Bxg2± 0.59/23 42.h4 Rf2+ 43.Kg3 *(43.Kg5 Rf1±)* 43...Ra2]
42.Rd8± 3 **g5+** 48 **43.Ke5** 6 **Rxh2** 2.50/22 54
[43...Re2± 1.12/24 was necessary.]
44.Nd4+- 5 d5-d6! is the strong threat.
44...Ra2 3.80/23 5:16
[⌓44...Bh1 2.43/21 45.d6 *(45.Nxf5 Re2+ 46.Kd4 Rd2+ 47.Kc5 g4=; 45.Kxf5 Rf2+ 46.Kxg5 Rd2=)* 45...Rh4]

(Diagram)

45.b4! 7 aiming for d5-d6!
[45.Nxf5 Bg2±]
45...g4 5.39/22 5
[⌓45...Bxd5 3.84/21 46.Rxd5 Ra4 47.Kxf5 *(47.Nxf5 Rxb4 48.Rd7 Kg6+-; 47.Nc6 Kg6+-)* 47...Rxb4 48.Kxg5 Ra4]
46.d6 15
[46.Nxf5? Bxf5 47.Rf8 *(47.Kxf5? g3-+)* 47...Re2+ 48.Kd6 *(48.Kxf5? g3-+)* 48...Kg6-+]



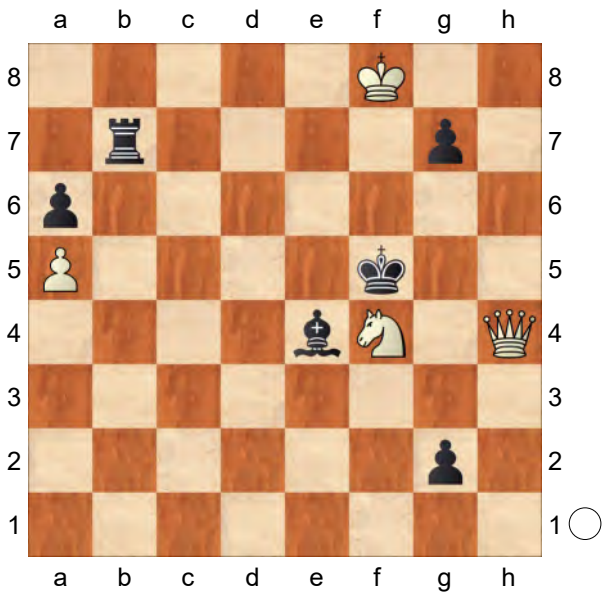
46...g3 19 ...g3-g2 would now be deadly.
47.d7? 1.87/22 3:19
[47.Rc8! 4.93/23 g2 48.Rc1]
47...g2 4



48.Rh8+!! 11 Decoy **48...Kxh8** 3
49.d8Q+ 5
[49.d8N g1Q *(49...g1B? 50.Nxf5 Re2 51.Nd6-+)* 50.Nf7+ Kh7 51.Nd6 Qh2+ 52.Ke6 Rd2 *(52...Qh6+ 53.Ke7 Qf6+ 54.Kd7 Qxd4 55.Kc7 Rc2+ 56.Kd7 Rd2 57.Ke6 Qxd6+ 58.Kf7 Qf6+ 59.Ke8 Rd8#)* 53.Nxe4 Rxd4 *(53...fxe4 54.Kd5 Qh5+* Deflection *55.Kc6 Rxd4 56.Kc7 Qf7+ 57.Kc6 Qe6+ 58.Kb7 Rd7+ 59.Kc8 Qe8#)* 54.Kxf5 g6+ *(54...Rxb4 55.Ng5+ Kg8 56.Ne6 Qd6 57.Nd4 Rxd4 58.Kg5 Qh6+ 59.Kf5 Qf6#)* 55.Ke6 Kg7 *(55...Rxe4+ 56.Kd7 Qf4 57.Kc6 Qf6+ 58.Kd7 Re7+ 59.Kd8 Qf8#)* 56.b5 Qf4 57.bxa6 Qxe4#]
49...Kh7 2 **50.Qg5!** 2:13
[50.Nxf5? g1Q *(50...g1B 51.Qh4+ Kg8 52.Qxe4 Rh2 53.Ke6)* 51.Qh4+ Kg6 52.Qxe4 Qg5 53.Qc6+ Qf6+ 54.Qxf6+ gxf6+ 55.Ke4 Rb2 56.Ne7+ Kg5-+]
50...Ra1 15 **51.Ne2** 15 Threatens to win with Ke5-e6.
[51.Nxf5 g1Q 52.Qh5+ Kg8 53.Qe8+ Kh7 54.Qh5+ Kg8 55.Qe8+ Kh7 56.Qh5+=]
51...Rb1? 6.04/23 3:10
[51...Rh1 2.53/22 52.Qg3 Kg8]
52.Ke6 1:18 Threatening mate with Ke6-f7. **52...Rxb4** 4 **53.Qh4+** 4 **Kg8** 4 (-> ...Be4-d5+!) **54.Qd8+** 5 **Kh7** 4 **55.Kf7** 20 **Rb7+** 2:14 **56.Kf8** 5 White wants to mate with Qd8-h4+.
56...f4 28 **57.Qh4+** 21
[Inferior is 57.Nxf4 Rb8 *(57...g1B 58.Qh4#)* 58.Qxb8 g1Q=]
57...Kg6 3 **58.Nxf4+** 3.16/5 2:26
[⌓58.Qxf4 6.53/25 Bf5 59.Qd6+ Kg5 60.Qd8+ *(60.Qxa6 Rb2+-; 60.Qg3+ Bg4+-)* 60...Kg4 61.Qd5 *(61.Qa8 Be4+-)*]
58...Kf5 4

(Diagram)

59.Nxg2 8 Decoy **59...g5** 1:26 Inhibits Qh4-f4+.
[59...Bxg2 60.Qf2+]
60.Ne3+ 43 **Kf6** 6 **61.Qh6+** 33



[Weaker is 61.Qxe4 Rb8+=]
61...Ke5 40 **62.Qxg5+** 26 **Kd4** 3 **63.Qf4** 20 **Rb5** 18 Against Ne3-f5+ **64.Ke7** 36 **Kd3** 44 **65.Ng4** 12 **Bd5** 57 **66.Ne5+** 1:02 **Kc3** 5 **67.Qe3+** 1:01 **Kb4** 6 **68.Kd6** 22 **Rxa5** 1:22 **69.Nd3+** 17 **Kc4** 35 **70.Nb2+** 8 **Kb4** 17 **71.Qd2+** 9
Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.57
1-0

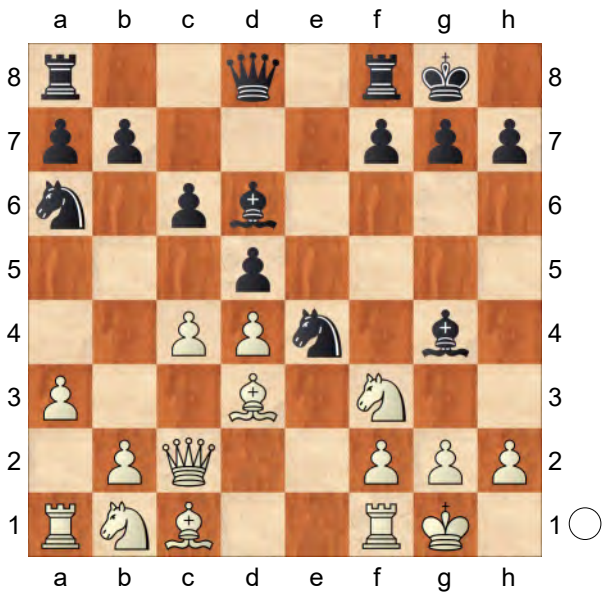
C42

□ **Yu,Yangyi** **2720**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
FIDE Grand Swiss (6) 30.10.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C42: Petroff Defence: 3 Nxe5 and unusual White 3rd moves
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.0-0 0-0 8.c4 c6 9.Qc2 Na6 10.a3 Bg4

(Diagram)

And now ...Bg4xf3 would win. **11.Ne5 Bf5** is now debated instead of 11...Bxe5.



wird nun anstelle von 11...Lxe5 disktutiert. **12.b4 Nc7 13.Nc3** White is slightly better.
[13.f3!?]
13...a5 14.bxa5 0.16/21
[14.b5± 0.56/21]
14...Ne6= 15.Be3 c5N
[15...N6c5 16.f3 *(16.dxc5 Bxe5 17.a6 Rxa6 18.cxd5 Nxc3 19.Bxf5 Nxd5 20.Bxh7+ Kh8 21.Qf5 Bxh2+ 22.Kxh2 Qh4+ 23.Kg1 Qxh7 24.Qxh7+ Kxh7* Petroff with 3. Nxe5 Main Lin-Petroff with 3 Nxe5 Main Line *)* 16...Bxe5 17.fxe4 *(17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.dxe5 Qe7 19.g4 Be6 20.Nxe4 Nxe4 21.Qxe4 Rxa5* Petroff with 3. Nxe5 Main Lin-Petroff with 3 Nxe5 Main Line*)* 17...Bg6 18.dxe5 d4 19.Bf2 Nxd3 20.Qxd3 dxc3 21.Qxc3 Qxa5 Petroff with 3. Nxe5 Main Lin-Petroff with 3 Nxe5 Main Line]
16.cxd5N
[Vorgänger: 16.Nxd5 cxd4 17.Bxe4 Bxe4 0.62/20 *(17...dxe3=* 0.23/23 *18.Bxf5 Bxe5)* 18.Qxe4± dxe3 19.Qxe3 Nc7 White must now prevent ...Nc7xd5. 20.Nb6 Rxa5

21.Nf3 Qe7 22.Qxe7 Bxe7 23.Rfd1 Repels Rf8-d8 Rd8 24.Rxd8+ Bxd8 25.g3 Ra6 26.Nc8 Thompson,B (2397)-Coleman,P (2610) ENG-ch3 final email 2021 ½-½]
[16.Bxe4? is the wrong capture. dxe4 17.dxc5 Bxe5-+]
[16.Nxd5 is more complex. cxd4 17.Bxe4 dxe3 18.Bxf5 Bxe5 19.Rad1]
16...Nxd4 17.Bxd4 cxd4 18.Bxe4
[18.Nxf7 looks sharper. Bxh2+ 19.Kxh2 Qh4+ 20.Kg1]
18...Bxe4 0.45/20
[18...dxc3= 0.04/20 might be stronger. 19.Bxf5 Bxe5]
19.Qxe4±
[Reject 19.Nxe4 Bxe5 20.g3 d3 *(20...Rxa5? 21.Qd3-+; 20...Qxa5 21.Rab1∓)* 21.Qxd3 Bxa1 22.Rxa1 Rxa5∓ *(22...Qxa5 23.Ng5∓)*]
19...Bxe5 20.Qxe5 dxc3 The position is equal. **21.Qxc3 Qxd5 22.Rfd1 Qxa5 23.Qxa5 Rxa5=** Endgame. KRR-KRR **24.Rab1 Rxa3 25.Rxb7 g6 26.g3 h5 27.h4 Kg7 28.Kg2 Ra6 29.Rbd7 Rf6 30.R1d3 Re8**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

D31

□ **Sevian,Samuel** **2698**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
FIDE Grand Swiss (10) 04.11.2023
[Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.Nf3 dxc4 5.e3 b5 6.a4 Bb4 7.Bd2 a5 8.axb5 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 cxb5 10.b3 Bb7 11.bxc4 b4 12.Bb2 Nf6 13.Bd3 0-0! is currently scoring better than 13...Nbd7. outshines the older 13...Nbd7. wohl besser als 13...Sbd7. erfolgreicher als das alte 13...Sbd7. **14.0-0 Qc7!?** Not quite a novelty but sidestepping from years of theory - it leads to very interesting play.Nicht ganz neu, aber abweichend von der jahrelangen Theorie - es führt zu einem sehr interessanten Spiel. **15.Nd2 a4 16.d5**
[16.Rxa4? Qc6 is the entire point ist die gesamte Pointe.]
16...b3 17.Bxf6 gxf6 This is a very interesting position, black's king is quite unsafe and it looks super shaky but if black can hold on the kingside and trade queens even at the cost of some material, the queenside pawns will be a huge strength .Das ist eine sehr interessante Stellung, der schwarze König ist ziemlich unsicher und es sieht sehr wackelig aus, aber wenn Schwarz sich am Königsflügel halten und die Damen tauschen kann, selbst auf Kosten von etwas Material, werden die Bauern am Damenflügel eine große Stärke sein. **18.Qh5N**
[Vorgänger: 18.Qg4+ Kh8 19.Qh4 f5 20.Qf6+ Kg8 21.Qg5+ Kh8 22.Qf6+ Kg8 23.Qg5+ Kh8 24.Qf6+ L'Ami,E (2627)-Anton Guijarro,D (2653) Bundesliga 2324 2023 (1.3) ½-½]
18...f5 19.Nf3 f6 Absolutely necessary to prevent Ng5.Unbedingt notwendig, um Sg5 zu verhindern.
[19...Nd7? 20.Ng5 Nf6 21.Qh6 Qe7 This is bad because all of black's pieces are stuck so White just needs to bring 1 more piece to the attack and it will be game over. Das ist schlecht, denn alle schwarzen Figuren stecken fest, so dass Weiß nur noch eine weitere Figur in den

Angriff bringen muss, und die Partie ist vorbei. 22.f4+-]

20.Nd4 Extremely tempting! Äußerst verlockend!

[20.dxe6 Black is okay to give up some pawns on the kingside to get his king to safety.Schwarz ist bereit, einige Bauern am Königsflügel zu opfern, um seinen König in Sicherheit zu bringen. Qg7⇄]

20...exd5 21.Qxf5

[21.Ne6 This is only a fake fork, as white doesn't win material due to Das ist nur eine Scheingabel, denn Weiß gewinnt kein Material aufgrund von Qf7]

21...Qd7! Asking for a queen trade which white can't afford.Offeriert einen Damentausch, den sich Weiß nicht leisten kann.

[21...Rf7!? 22.cxd5 Qe5 It was a possibility to play it this way but I felt I'm lagging behind in development so he may try to sacrifice his piece for the 2 pawns. Es war eine Möglichkeit, auf diese Weise zu spielen, aber ich hatte das Gefühl, dass ich in der Entwicklung hinterherhinke, so dass er versuchen könnte, seine Figur für die 2 Bauern zu opfern. 23.Rfb1⇄]

22.Ne6

[22.Qf4 Nc6 23.Bf5 Nxd4! is a cute little tactic:ist eine nette kleine Taktik: 24.exd4 *(24.Qg4+ Qg7* Almost winning if queens are getting traded.Fast schon gewonnen, wenn die Damen getauscht werden.*; 24.Bxd7 Ne2+)* 24...Qg7 25.c5 Bc8∓ It's a healthy advantage thanks to the queenside pawns and the king is safe now- Es ist ein gesunder Vorteil dank der Bauern am Damenflügel und der König ist jetzt sicher.]

22...Nc6 White has a lot of options here, considering he had less time I was optimistic he will go wrong.Weiß hat hier viele Möglichkeiten, und da er weniger Zeit hatte, war ich optimistisch, dass er einen Fehler machen würde.

[22...Rf7!? is a possibility but I really wanted to develop my knight fast enough. ist eine Möglichkeit, aber ich wollte meinen Springer wirklich schnell genug entwickeln.]

[22...Re8? This was very natural but it runs into Das war sehr natürlich, aber es stößt auf 23.cxd5 Bxd5 24.Nc7! and white wins some material. und Weiß gewinnt etwas Material.]

23.cxd5

[23.Rfb1]

[23.Qh3!! The machines seem to be suggesting moves like this or Rfb1 but it's not human!Die Maschinen scheinen Züge wie diesen oder Tfb1 vorzuschlagen, aber es nicht menschlich! Rf7 *(23...b2? 24.Ra2 a3 25.Qg3+ Kh8 26.Nxf8)* 24.cxd5 Ne5 25.Bf5⇄]

[23.Qg4+ Kh8 24.Bf5 I was looking at this during the gameDies hatte ich während der Partie betrachtet. Rg8 *(24...Rf7? 25.Ng5!+-; 24...Ne5? 25.Nxf8+-)* 25.Qh4 Qf7 26.Bxh7 Qxh7 27.Qxf6+ Rg7 and I stopped my calculation here feeling happy. It's not a perpetual but it is very complicated with a lot of things hanging afterund ich habe meine Berechnung hier mit einem guten Gefühl beendet. Es ist kein Dauerschach, aber es ist sehr kompliziert, und es hängen eine Menge Dinge nach 28.cxd5⇄]

23...Ne5 24.Nc5 Practical. Praktisch.

[24.Nxf8 Qxf5 25.Bxf5 Kxf8

Good luck stopping those pawns! Viel Glück beim Aufhalten dieser Bauern!]

24...Qxf5 25.Bxf5 As black is losing one of the 2 important pawns it is absolutely essential to activate pieces and the B on f5 restricsts black's activity so we trade that piece !Da Schwarz einen der 2 wichtigen Bauern verliert, ist es absolut notwendig, Figuren zu aktivieren und der L auf f5 schränkt die schwarze Aktivität ein, also tauschen wir diese Figur!

25...Bc8! 26.Bxc8?!

[26.Be6+!! Super difficult to foresee the point from here.Es ist sehr schwierig, von hier aus die Pointe zu erkennen. Bxe6 27.dxe6 Rfc8 28.Rxa4 b2 29.h3! This is the point of having the pawn on e6 instead of d5. Das ist die Pointe, wenn der Bauer auf e6 statt auf d5 steht. Rab8 30.Rb1 Rxc5 31.Rxb2 Rxb2 32.Ra8+ Kg7 33.e7 and white saves the game. In fact it is black who has to take a narrow path to a draw now: und Weiß rettet die Partie. Tatsächlich ist es Schwarz, der jetzt einen schmalen Weg zum Remis einschlagen muss: Nf3+! 34.gxf3 Rg5+ 35.Kf1 *(35.Kh1 Rxf2 36.e8Q Rf1+=)* 35...Rb1+ 36.Ke2 Rb2+ 37.Kd3 Re5 38.e8Q Rxe8 39.Rxe8 Rxf2=]

26...Rfxc8 27.Rxa4? This is a decisive mistake. Dies ist ein entscheidender Fehler.

[27.Nxa4 Rc2 Black does keep some chances but it is extremely likely it is some kind of a fortress as white gives up the knight for the b-pawn and black will be left with too few pawns to do anything. Schwarz hat zwar einige Chancen, aber es ist sehr wahrscheinlich, dass es sich um eine Art Festung handelt, da Weiß den Springer für den b-Bauern aufgibt und Schwarz zu wenige Bauern hat, um etwas zu tun. 28.Rab1 Rxa4 29.Rxb3]

27...b2! 28.Rb4 Rab8! 29.Nb7

[29.Rxb8 Rxb8 30.Rb1 Ra8

A) 31.Ne4 Ra1 32.Nc3 *(32.Nd2 Nc4)* 32...Nc4-+;

B) 31.Nb3 Nc4-+ The king just takes care of the d-pawn. Der König kümmert sich einfach um den d-Bauern. 32.d6 *(32.h3 Rb8 33.Nd4 Na3)* 32...Kf7]

29...Rc2! It is essential to keep the b-pawn. Es ist wichtig, den b-Bauern zu behalten.

[29...Nd3? 30.Rb3 Rc7 31.Rxd3 Rbxb7 32.Rdd1 and white holds very passively here.und Weiß hält sich hier sehr passiv.]

30.Rb5

[30.d6

A) 30...Nd3?? 31.Rb5! is the proble mist das Problem *(31.Rb3* This loses to some nice geometry: Das verliert aufgrund schöner Geometrie: *Nc1 32.Rb5 Ne2+ 33.Kh1 Rc1-+)*;

B) 30...Ra8!-+ This is a cool move that wins the game on the spot which was told to me by my opponent after the game. Dies ist ein cooler Zug, der auf der Stelle gewinnt, wie mir mein Gegner nach der Partie sagte.]

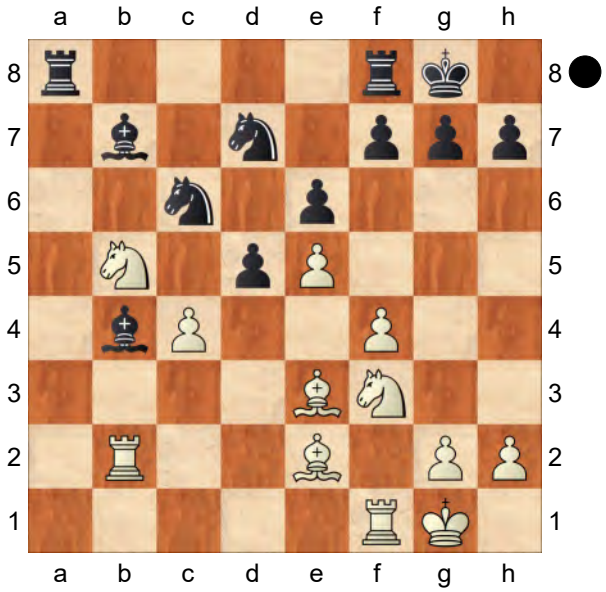
30...Nc4 31.d6 Nd2!

[31...Na3? 32.Rb3 b1Q?? Now it's black who loses as after Jetzt ist es Schwarz, der verliert, nach 33.Rbxb1 Nxb1 34.d7! white will be up material.wird Weiß Material mehr

haben. *(34.Rxb1?? Rxb7-+)*]
32.d7 Rc1 A cute finish!Ein schöner Abschluss!
0-1

C11
□ **Fedoseev,Vladimir1** **2691**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
FIDE Grand Swiss (9) 03.11.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.a3 0-0 9.Qd2 a6 10.dxc5 White has an edge.10.Be2 is not played anymore. 10.Le2 wird inzwischen seltener gespielt. **10...Nxc5 11.Rd1N** 11.Rd1 is setting a new trend. 11.Td1 setzt einen neuen Trend.
[11.Qf2 Qa5 *(11...Nd7 12.Nd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 f6 14.exf6 Bxf6 15.Bxf6 Qxf6 16.g3 g5 17.0-0-0 gxf4 18.Kb1 f3 19.g4 Ne5 20.g5 Qg7 21.g6 hxg6 22.Bd3 Bd7 23.Rdg1 Nxd3 24.cxd3 Rf5 25.Rg4 Raf8 26.Rhg1* 10.Ba3 b6 11.ba5 Nh5 (2785)-Brachtel,R (2653) corr 9193 1991 (5) 0-1 *Be8 27.Nd1 Rh5 28.h4 Re5 29.Ne3 Bb5 30.Rd4 Re4 31.Rxg6 Bxd3+* Chapter C00-Games Chapter C00 Game 7*)* 12.0-0-0 Nd7 13.Bd3 b5 14.Nd4 Qc7 15.Nf5 exf5 16.Nxd5 Qa5 17.Bd2 Bc5 18.Nf6+ Nxf6 19.Qxc5 Qc7 20.exf6 Be6 21.g4 Rfd8 22.gxf5 Rd5 23.Qg1 g6 24.fxe6 Rxd3 25.Qc5 Qd6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.Be3 b6 (2650)-Wirsching,A (2552) Cuban ch. corr 1994 (8) 1-0]
[11.0-0-0 b5 12.Qf2 Nd7 13.Nd4 Bb7 14.Bd3 b4 15.Nxc6 Bxc6 16.axb4 Bxb4 17.Bd4 Bb5 18.f5 Qg5+ 19.Kb1 Bxd3 20.Rxd3 Bxc3 21.Bxc3 Rac8 22.Rg3 Qh5 23.f6 g6 24.Re1 Rc4 25.b3 Rh4 Robert,F (2276)-9.a4 ♕c7 10. ♔h1 ♘c6 11î (2351) SLO-chT 30th 2020 (9) 1-0]
11...b5N
[Vorgänger: 11...b6 0.95/23 11...Qd8-c7 0.08 12.Be2 0.36/24 *(12.b4± 0.95/23)* 12...a5 13.0-0 Ba6 14.Bxa6 Rxa6 15.f5 Ra8 1.44/24 *(*Black should try *15...Ne4* 0.87/22 *16.Nxe4 dxe4)* 16.Qf2 Kh8 17.Qg3 Rc8 2.33/18 Nabaty,T (2650)-Kovalenko,I (2659) Lake Sevan Martuni 2017 (2) ½-½ *(17...Ra7±* 1.32/21 was necessary. *)*]
12.b4 Nd7 13.Bd3 Bb7 0.60/21
[13...a5= 0.08/21 14.Bxb5 Qc7]
14.0-0 a5 15.Nxb5 And now Nb5-d6 would win. **15...axb4 16.axb4 Nxb4 17.Be2 Qa5 18.c3 Nc6** The position is equal. **19.c4 Qxd2 20.Rxd2 Bb4 21.Rb2**



Nb5-d4 is the strong threat. **21...dxc4 22.Bxc4 Bc5 23.Bxc5 Nxc5 24.Rc1 Ne7 25.Nfd4 Ba6 26.Be2 Na4 27.Rbb1 Bxb5 28.Nxb5 Rab8 29.Ra1**

Nb6 30.g3 Nbd5 31.Nd6 g6 32.Bf3 Rb3 33.Kg2 Rb2+ 34.Kh3 Rb3 35.Rf1 Rd3 36.Be4 Re3 37.Rf2 Nc3 Excellent horsemanship. **38.Bc2 Rb8 39.Ra7 Nc8 40.Rb7**
[40.Rxf7? is the wrong capture. Nxd6 41.Re7 Nc4 42.Rxe6 Rf8-+]
40...Rxb7 41.Nxb7 Kf8 42.Nc5 Nb6 43.Kg2 Ncd5 44.Bd3 Re1 45.Rb2 Kg7
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

C06

□ **Mamedov,Rauf** **2651**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
Wch Blitz Samarkand (11) 29.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C06: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 main lines
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Nf3 Bd6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Bf4 Bxf4 13.Nxf4 Ng4 has lost popularity (13...Ne4). verliert an Beliebtheit (13...Se4). **14.g3 g5 15.Ng2 e5!?N** A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.
[15...Qf6 16.Be2 Nh6 *(16...Qh6 17.h4 gxh4 18.Ngxh4 Bd7 19.Qc1 Qxc1 20.Raxc1 a6 21.Ng2 Rac8 22.Nf4 Nh6 23.Bd3 Nf5 24.Bxf5 Rxf5 25.Rfe1 Rff8 26.Kg2 Rfe8 27.Nd3 b6 28.Nde5 Nxe5 29.Nxe5 Bb5 30.Kf3 Kg7 31.Ke3* Alex Geerjanan,N-Newman,C Bagneux Librairie Saint Germain 1982 (7.4) 1-0 *)* 17.Qd2 Nf5 18.Rad1
A) 18...h6 19.Ne3 *(19.h4 g4 20.Ne5 Ncxd4 21.Nxg4 Qg7 22.N4e3 Nxe2+ 23.Qxe2 Nd4 24.Qg4 Nf3+ 25.Kh1 d4* Annakov,B (2380)-Seferjan,N (2345) Moscow 70/(271) 1997*)* 19...Bd7 20.Nxf5 exf5 21.Bb5 f4 22.Bxc6 bxc6 23.Ne5 Bh3 24.Rfe1 Rae8 25.Rc1 fxg3 26.fxg3 c5 27.Qc2 cxd4 28.Nf3 Rxe1+ 29.Rxe1 Kh8 Ginsburg,G (2435)-Svistunov,K (2490) Pinsk 1993 0-1;
B) 18...g4 19.Ne5 Ncxd4 20.Nxg4 Qg7 Renet,O (2455)-Hertneck,G (2450) 44/(328) Altensteig 1987]
16.Nxe5 Ngxe5 The position is equal. **17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Be2** Dodges Bc8-g4 **18...Bf5 19.Qd4↑** White has the initiative. **19...Nc6N**
[Vorgänger: 19...Qd6 20.Rfd1 Black should prevent Ng2-e3! Rad8! 21.Rac1 Be4 And now ...Be4-f3 would win. 22.Ne1 Nc6 23.Qc5 Qf6 24.f3 Qxb2 25.Bf1 Bg6 26.Rxd5 Rxd5 27.Qxd5+ Kg7! 28.Qc5 Rf5 29.Qc3+ Tiviakov,S (2615)-Ulybin,M (2453) Groningen op 57th 2019 (6) ½-½]
20.Qd2 d4 21.Rad1 Qf6 0.80/19
[21...Rc8= 0.20/19 keeps the balance.]
22.h4 0.17/22
[22.f4± 0.80/19]
22...h6 23.hxg5 hxg5 24.f4 g4 1.21/20
[24...Qd6± 0.44/21]
25.Nh4!± Rae8 26.Bc4+ 0.59/20
[26.Nxf5!± 1.49/23 Qxf5 27.Bd3]
26...Be6± 27.Qe2 0.00/22
[27.Bd3± 0.73/19]
27...Kg7 1.10/19 Prevents Nh4-g6
[27...Bxc4= 0.00/22 28.Qxc4+ Qe6 29.Qxe6+ Rxe6]
28.Bxe6 0.00/29
[White should play 28.Rde1± 1.10/19

Bd7 29.Qd1]

28...Qxe6= 29.Qb5 Qe3+ 30.Kh1 Qe4+ 31.Kg1 Qe3+ 32.Kh1 Qxg3 33.Qg5+

[33.Qxb7+? Ne7-+ 34.Rxd4 Qh3+ *(34...Qxh4+? 35.Kg1-+)* 35.Kg1 Qe3+ *(35...Qxh4? 36.f5-+)* 36.Kh1 Qxd4-+]

33...Kf7 aiming for ...Re8-e2. **34.Qd5+**

[34.Qf5+ Ke7 35.Ng6+ Kd8 36.Nxf8 Qh3+ 37.Kg1 Qg3+ 38.Kh1= Qh3+ 39.Kg1 Qe3+ *(39...Qg3+ 40.Kh1=)* 40.Rf2 Qg3+ 41.Kh1 *(41.Rg2 Re1+ 42.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 43.Kh2 Qh4+ 44.Kg1 Qe1+ 45.Kh2 Qh4+ 46.Kg1 Qe1+=)* 41...Qh3+ 42.Kg1 Qg3+ 43.Kh1 *(43.Rg2 Re1+ 44.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 45.Kh2 Qh4+ 46.Kg1 Qe1+ 47.Kh2 Qh4+ 48.Kg1 Qe1+=)* 43...Qh3+ 44.Kg1 Qg3+=]

34...Re6 Dancing on a razor blade.

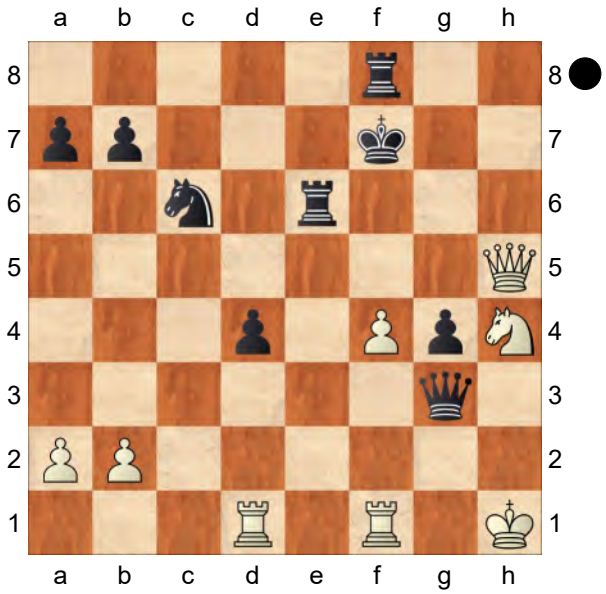
35.Qh5+ -4.17/25

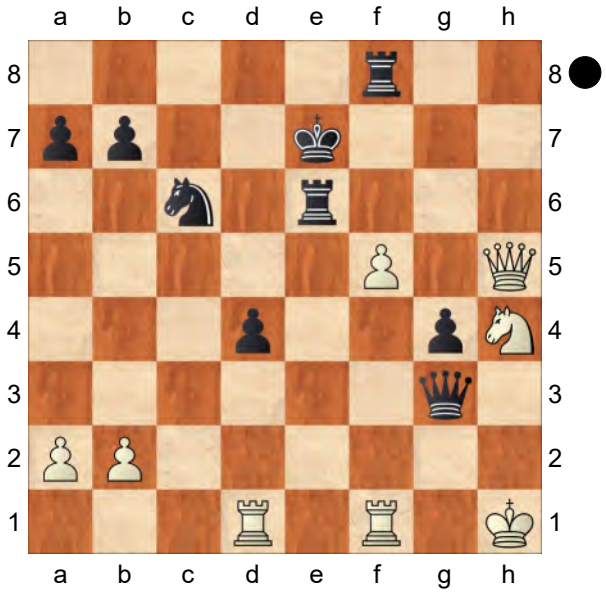
[35.Qf5+= 0.00/22 Kg7 *(35...Rf6? 36.Qh7+* Skewer *Ke8 37.Rd3+-)* 36.Qg5+ *(36.Qxe6 Qxh4+ 37.Kg2 Qh3+ 38.Kf2 g3+* Discovered Attack *39.Kf3 Qxe6 40.Rfe1 Ne5+ 41.Ke4 Qf5+ 42.Kxd4 Qxf4+ 43.Re4 Nc6+* Deflection *44.Kc3 Qxe4 45.Rd7+ Kh8 46.Rd3 Qb4+ 47.Kc2 Rf2+ 48.Kd1 Qxb2)* 36...Kh7 37.Rf3 Re1+ *(37...gxf3? 38.Qxg3 Rg8 39.Qxf3+-)* 38.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 39.Kh2 Qe2+ *(39...gxf3 40.Qh5+ Kg8 41.Qg6+ Kh8 42.Qh5+ Kg7 43.Qg6+ Kh8 44.Qh6+ Kg8 45.Qg6+ Kh8=)* 40.Kg1]

(Diagram)

35...Ke7!-+ 36.f5

(Diagram)





Hoping for Nh4-g6+. **36...Re2! 37.Ng6+ Kd8 38.Qh4+?** -7.73/17

[38.Nf4 -3.91/22 Rf2 *(38...Rxb2? 39.Rd3+-)* 39.Qh6]

38...Qxh4+ Deflection **39.Nxh4 Rh8 40.f6 Rxh4+ 41.Kg1 Ke8**

[41...Rxb2 42.f7 Rh8 *(42...Rxa2 43.f8Q+ Kd7 44.Qf7+ Kd8 45.Qd5+ Kc8 46.Qe6+ Kc7 47.Rf7+ Kb6 48.Rb1+* Skewer *)* 43.f8R+ Rxf8 44.Rxf8+ Ke7 45.Rf2 Rxf2 46.Kxf2-+]

42.Rf5 Kf7

[42...Rxb2? is the wrong capture. 43.f7+ Kf8 44.Re1+-]

43.Rdf1 Rhh2 44.R1f4 g3 (-> ...Re2-e1+) **45.Rg5 Reg2+**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.95/ Black=0.14 (very precise)

0-1

A50

□ **Gelfand,Boris** **2660**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**

Gashimov Memorial Rapid 9th (1)

[Kitty Kat]

A50: Queen's Fianchetto Defence (1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 b6)

Inf 70/(4) **1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.d4N**

[3.g3 Bb7 4.Bg2 e6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Nc3 0-0 7.Re1 d5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.e4 Nxc3 10.bxc3 Nc6 11.d4 Na5 12.Bf4 Bd6 13.Ne5 Qe7 14.Qg4 f6 15.Nf3 Ba3 16.Bc1 Rae8 17.Nh4 Bxc1 Kramnik,V (2740)-Ivanchuk,V (2740) Monaco (blindfold) 1997]

[3.e3 Bb7 4.b3 g6 5.Bb2 Bg7 6.Be2 0-0 7.0-0 c5 8.Nc3 Nc6 *(8...d5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Bxg7 Nxe3 11.fxe3 Kxg7 12.d4 e6 13.Qe1 Nd7 14.Rd1 Qe7 15.Qg3* 1c) Queen's Indian: ...Bb7 Li-Queen's Indian Without ...e6: Lifetime Repertoires: Modern Reti - Par 2024*)* 9.d4 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Ne4 12.Qd3 d5 13.cxd5 Nxc3 14.Bxc3 Qxd5 15.Qxd5 Bxd5 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Rac1 1c) Queen's Indian: ...Bb7 Li-Queen's Indian Without ...e6: Lifetime Repertoires: Modern Reti - Par 2024]

3...Bb7 4.g3 Bxf3 5.exf3 e6 6.Bg2 Bb4+! outshines the older 6...d5. erfolgreicher als das alte 6...d5. **7.Bd2 Bxd2+ 8.Qxd2** White is slightly better. **8...0-0 9.0-0 d5 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Nc3N**

[Vorgänger: 11.Na3 Re8 12.Rac1 Qd7 13.f4 Na6 14.Nc2 Rac8 15.Qd3 Qa4 16.Ne3 c6 17.a3 Wards off Nb4 Nc7 18.Rfd1 Nb5 19.Nc2 0.31/20 *(*Better is *19.Bf1±* 0.73/20 *)* 19...a6 0.90/20 *(19...h5±* 0.31/20 *)* 20.Bh3± Rc7 21.Bf1 Polezhaev,A-Shorokhov,S (2300) RUS WS KH01 email 2008 1-0]

11...c6 12.Rfe1 Na6 13.f4 0.22/18 White is more active.

[13.Rac1± 0.68/18]

13...Nc7 14.f5 Qd6 15.Re5 Nd7 16.Re3 Rfe8 17.Rae1 Kf8

[17...h6 simplifies 18.h4 Rxe3 19.Rxe3 Qf6]

18.g4

[18.Rxe8+ simplifies Rxe8 19.Rc1 Nf6 20.Bf3]

18...h6 19.Bf3 Rxe3 20.Rxe3 Re8 21.Kg2 Rxe3 22.fxe3 -0.40/21

[22.Qxe3= 0.01/23 Qe7 23.Qd3]

22...Qe7 -0.01/20

[22...Nf6∓ -0.40/21]

23.Qf2 -0.50/21

[23.Ne2= -0.01/20]

23...Nf6∓ 24.Bd1 Nce8 25.Qf4 a5 -0.22/21

[25...Nd7∓ -0.63/19]

26.a3 -1.04/21

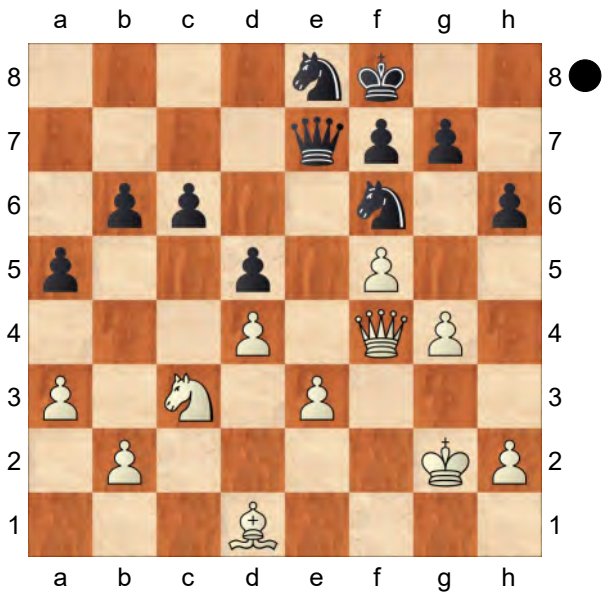
[26.h4= -0.22/21]

(Diagram)

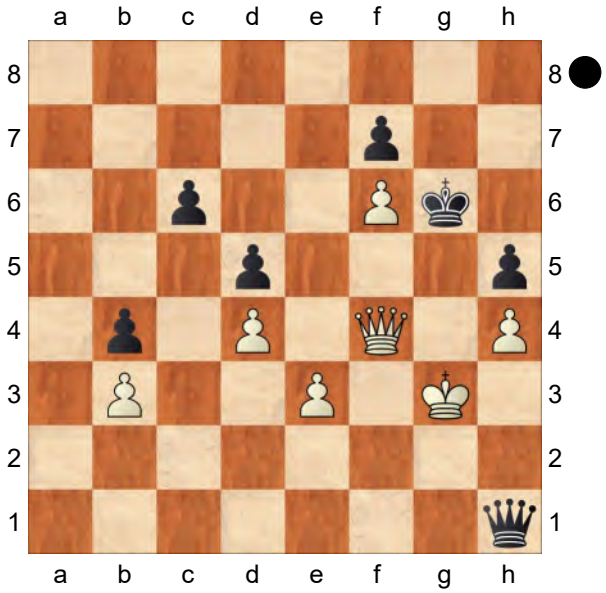
26...Nd6 -0.25/21

[26...b5!∓ -1.04/21 27.Bf3 b4 28.axb4 Qxb4]

27.Be2= b5 28.Bd3 Kg8 29.h4! b4 30.axb4 axb4 31.Nd1 Nfe4 32.Bxe4



Nxe4 33.Nf2 Nxf2
[33...Qxh4 34.Nxe4 dxe4 35.Qxe4]
34.Qxf2 Endgame. KQ-KQ **34...Qe4+ 35.Kg3 Qb1 36.g5 h5 37.Qf4 Kh7**
[37...Qxb2 38.g6]
38.f6 Qg1+
[Worse is 38...Qxb2 39.g6+ fxg6 40.Qc7]
39.Kh3! gxf6 40.Qf5+ Kg8 41.Qc8+ -0.89/32
[41.Qf4= -0.01/30]
41...Kh7 -0.01/21
[Black should play 41...Kg7∓ -0.89/32 42.gxf6+ Kxf6 43.Qxc6+ Kg7 44.Qxd5 Qxe3+ 45.Kg2 Qe2+ 46.Kg1 Qe1+ *(46...Qxb2 47.Qg5+ Kh7 48.Qxh5+ Kg8 49.Qg4+ Kf8 50.Qc8+ Ke7 51.Qc5+ Kd7 52.Qf5+ Kd8 53.Qa5+ Ke8 54.Qb5+ Ke7 55.Qg5+ Ke8 56.Qg8+ Ke7 57.Qg5+ Kd7 58.Qf5+ Kd8 59.Qxf7=)* 47.Kg2 Qxh4]
42.Qf5+ Kg8 43.Qc8+ Kg7 44.gxf6+ Kh7 0.01/24
[44...Kxf6∓ -0.51/27 45.Qxc6+ Kg7 46.Qxd5 Qxe3+ 47.Kg2 Qe2+ 48.Kg1 Qe1+ *(48...Qxb2 49.Qg5+ Kh7 50.Qxh5+ Kg8 51.Qg4+ Kh8 52.Qh5+ Kg8 53.Qg4+ Kh7 54.Qf5+ Kg8 55.Qg4+=)* 49.Kg2 Qxh4]
45.Qf5+ The position is equal. **45...Kh6 46.Qf4+ Kg6 47.b3 Qh1+ 48.Kg3**



White wants to mate with Qg5+.
48...Qg1+ 49.Kh3 Qh1+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.14 (very precise)
½-½

D02

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Alekseev,Evgeny** **2550**
CrunchLab Masters Div 3 W rapid (6.3)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3 Nc6 5.Nbd2 cxd4 6.exd4 a6 7.c3 Bf5 8.Nh4! is currently scoring better than 8. Be2. wohl besser als 8.Le2. **8...Bg4 9.Qb3 Na5 10.Qc2 e6 11.h3 Bh5 12.Bd3 Bd6 13.Bxd6 Qxd6 14.Nhf3N**
[Vorgänger: 14.Ndf3 Nc6 15.0-0 Bg6 16.Nxg6 hxg6 17.Rae1 Rh5 18.Qe2 Nd7 19.Qe3 Qe7 20.Nh2 Labiano Hernandez,J (2392)-Vocaturo, D (2603) Benasque op 43rd 2024 (8) 0-1]

14...Bg6 15.Bxg6 hxg6 16.0-0 Nc6 17.a4 Qf4 18.Rfe1 Rc8 19.Re3 0-0 20.Qd3 Nd7 21.g3 Qf5 22.Qxf5 gxf5 23.a5 Na7 24.Ne1 Nb5 25.Nd3 Nd6 26.Nb3 g5 27.Kg2 Kg7 28.Nbc5 Nf6 29.Ra4 Rc7 30.Rxe6 fxe6 31.Nxe6+ Kf7 32.Nxc7 Rc8 33.Nxa6 bxa6 34.Nc5 Rb8 35.Nxa6 Rxb2 36.Nb4 Nde4 37.Nd3 Rb8 38.Ra3 Ra8 39.a6 Nd6 40.a7 Ke7 41.Ra6 Nb5 42.Nb4 Nc7 43.Rb6
1-0

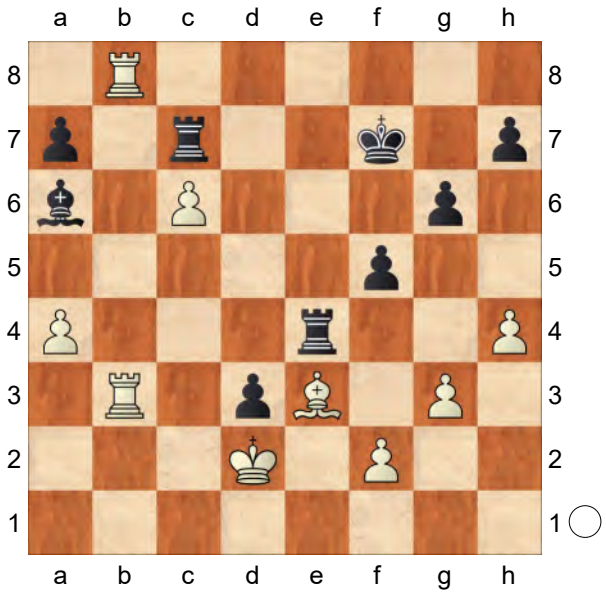
E91

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2738**
■ **Hakobyan,Aram** **2619**

Titled Tuesday intern op 27th Feb Late blitz (11)
[Kitty Kat]

E91: King's Indian: Classical: 6 Be2, unusual replies including 6...c5 and 6...Bg4

1.c4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.e4 c5 4.d5 d6 5.Be2 Nf6 6.Nc3 0-0 7.Nf3 e6 8.Be3 exd5 9.cxd5 b5 ...b5-b4 is the strong threat. **10.e5** Deflection. White is more active. White is slightly better.
[10.Bxb5 Nxe4 11.0-0 Bxc3=]
10...dxe5 And now ...b5-b4 would win.
11.Bxc5 Re8 12.Bxb5
[12.Nxb5 Nbd7 *(12...Qxd5 13.Qxd5 Nxd5 14.Rd1±; 12...Nxd5 13.Nd6±)* 13.Bd6 Nb6=]
12...Nbd7 13.Bxd7 -1.93/20
[13.Be3± 0.72/19 and life is bright.]
13...Nxd7-+ 14.Be3 Ba6 Hoping for ... Ra8-b8. Black has strong compensation.
15.a4 -2.19/20
[15.Ng1∓ -1.31/18]
15...e4 16.Nd4 Ne5 Dodges Nd4-c6
17.Nc6 Nd3+ -0.89/19
[17...Nxc6-+ -2.34/19 is more deadly. 18.dxc6 Qa5]
18.Qxd3∓ exd3 0.12/19
[18...Bxd3∓ -0.80/22 19.Nxd8 Rexd8]
19.Nxd8= Raxd8 20.Kd2 Bxc3+ Remove Defender **21.bxc3 Rxd5 22.Rab1 Rd7 23.Rb4 f5 24.Rhb1 Kf7 25.h4** 0.31/24
[White should try 25.Rh4 0.70/20]
25...Re6 26.R1b3 Rc6 27.g3 Re6 28.c4 Red6 29.c5 Re6 30.Rb8 Re4! 31.c6 Rc7 1.31/23
[31...Rd6!= 0.04/21 remains equal.]

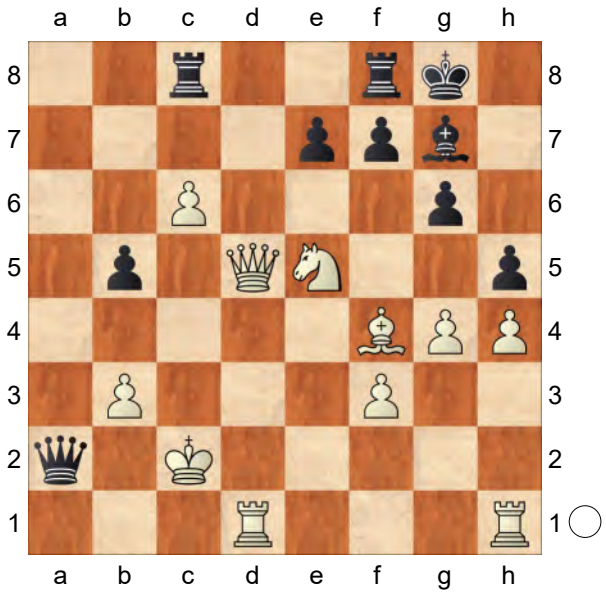


32.R8b7!↑ Promotion. White is on the roll. **32...Ree7 33.Rxc7 Rxc7+-** Endgame. KRB-KRB **34.Rc3 Ke6 35.Bf4 Re7 36.Rc5** aiming for Rc5-a5.
36...Re8 2.50/24
[36...Kf7± 1.52/22]
37.Kc3 Rc8 38.c7 Kd7 2.67/24 Prevents Rc5-c6
[⌓38...Bb7 1.98/24 39.Rb5 *(39.Kxd3 Kd7+-)* 39...Bf3 40.Kxd3 Kd7]
39.Ra5 Bb7 40.Kxd3 1.54/23
[40.Rxa7+- 2.57/22 Bc6 41.Ra6 *(41.Kxd3 Be4+ 42.Kd4 Ra8+-)*]
40...Be4+ 2.27/23

[40...a6± 1.54/23 was worth a try. 41.Rc5 h6]
41.Kd4 Kc6 42.Re5
[42.Rxa7? too greedy. Kb6 43.Ke5 *(43.f3? Bxf3 44.Bd6 Kxa7-+)* 43...Kxa7-+]
42...Kb7 43.Rb5+ Kc6 44.Rb8 Kd7 45.a5 a6? 4.78/24
[45...Bf3 2.34/24 46.Ke3 Ba8]
46.Be5 Bc6 47.Ke3 Quite a comeback for White.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.37
1-0

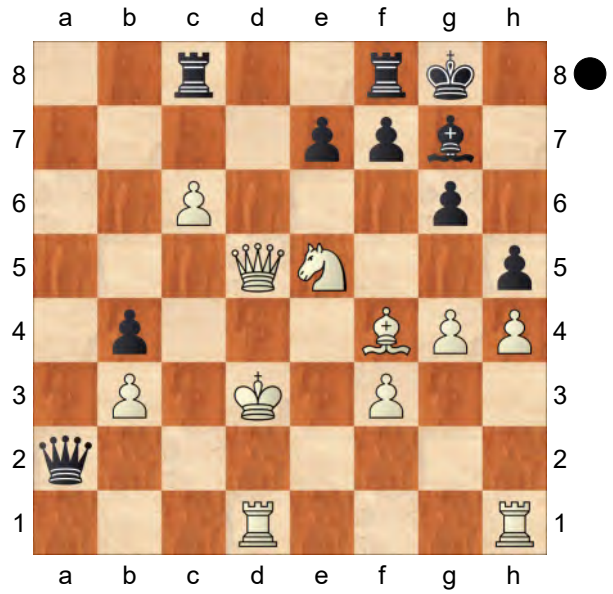
D00
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
■ **Mamedov,Rauf** **2651**
Gashimov Memorial Blitz 9th (2)
[Kitty Kat]

D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines
1.d4 d5 2.Nc3
[2.Nf3 c5 3.e3 Nc6 4.c4 e6 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bb5 Nf6 7.0-0 cxd4 8.exd4 Bd6 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Bg5 Bg4 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.Nxd5 Qh6 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Nxd4 15.Qd3 Nxb5 16.Qxb5 a6 17.Qb6 Erigaisi,A (2727)-Mamedov,R (2651) Gashimov Memorial Rapid 9th 2023 (2) ½-½]
2...Nf6 3.Bf4 g6 4.e3 Bg7 5.h4 h5 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Qd2 c5!? Exploring less charted territory.Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. **8.Ne5** White is slightly better. **8...cxd4 9.exd4 Nc6 10.f3 Bf5 11.Bb5N**
[Vorgänger: 11.0-0-0 Rc8 12.Kb1 Nb4 13.Bb5+ Kf8 14.Ba4 b5 15.Bb3 a5 16.g4 hxg4 17.fxg4 Satvik,S (1723)-Kiran,M (2133) New Delhi Parsvnath blitz op 18th 2020 (9) 0-1]
11...Rc8 12.0-0-0 Qb6 1.15/21
[12...Bd7± 0.70/21]
13.Bxc6+± bxc6 14.Na4 Qa6 15.b3
[15.Nc5 keeps more tension. Qxa2 16.Qc3 Nd7 17.Nexd7 Bxd7 18.b3]
15...c5 16.dxc5 -0.01/23
[16.Nxc5± 0.90/23 Qxa2 17.Qc3 Bxc2 18.Qxc2 Qa1+ 19.Kd2 Qxd4+ 20.Ned3]
16...0-0 0.60/20
[16...Nd7= -0.01/23 17.Nxd7 *(17.Qxd5? Nxe5 18.Bxe5 Qe2-+)* 17...Bxd7]
17.Kb1 -0.01/21
[17.Qe3!± 0.60/20]
17...Nd7!= 18.Qxd5 Nb6 0.95/23
19.Nxb6 0.01/25
[19.cxb6± 0.95/23 Rxc2 20.g4 *(20.Nd3 Rxg2 21.Rh2 Rxh2=)* 20...hxg4 21.Nd3 *(21.fxg4 Rd2+ 22.gxf5 Rxd5=)*]
19...axb6 20.c6 b5→ ...Rc8-a8 is the strong threat. White needs to defend precisely. The board is on fire. **21.g4 Bxc2+** 1.24/21 **22.Kxc2±** And now Kc2-b1 would win. **22...Qxa2+**



23.Kc3 0.40/22
[23.Kc1!± 1.24/23]

23...b4+± 24.Kd3? -0.83/6
[24.Kc4? Qc2+ 25.Kd4 Rfd8-+ *(25...Qxc6? 26.Qxc6 Rxc6 27.gxh5+-; 25...Rcd8? 26.Ke3-+; 25...Qxc6? 26.Qxc6 Rxc6 27.gxh5+-; 25...Rcd8? 26.Bg3-+)*]
[24.Kxb4± 0.77/19 is forced if you want to stay better. Threatens to win with Ne5-d7. Qc2 25.Nd7 Rxc6 26.Rc1 Skewer *(26.gxh5 Rfc8=; 26.Nxf8? Rb6+ 27.Ka5 Rxb3-+)* 26...Bc3+ 27.Kb5]



24...Bxe5∓ 25.Qxe5? -5.32/20
[25.Bxe5? Rfd8-+]
[25.Ke3 -1.99/21 Qa7+ 26.Ke4 Bxf4 27.Kxf4 Qb8+ 28.Qe5 Rxc6 29.Qxb8 Rxb8 30.gxh5]
25...Rxc6-+ 26.Qd5 Rc3+ 27.Kd4 Qf2+
[27...Qxb3? perishes. 28.Qxb3 *(28.gxh5? Qc2-+)* 28...Rxb3 29.gxh5+-]
[27...Rxb3 28.Rh2 Qa3 29.Ke4-+]
28.Ke5 Rc5 Pin **29.gxh5 Rxd5+** -14.78/17
[⌓29...Rd8 -#8/18 30.Rd2 Rcxd5+ 31.Rxd5 f6+ *(31...Qb2+* gets mated. *32.Ke4 Qc2+ 33.Ke3 Rxd5 34.Rd1 Rxd1 35.hxg6 f5 36.Bh6 Qd2#)* 32.Ke6 Qb6+ 33.Kxe7 Rxd5 34.Rh3 Qb7+ *(34...gxh5* is a self mate. *35.Rg3+ Kh7 36.Rg2 Qd8+ 37.Kf7 Rd7+ 38.Ke6 Qe7+ 39.Kf5 Rd5+ 40.Be5 Qxe5#)* 35.Bc7 Qxc7+ 36.Kxf6 Qf7#]
30.Rxd5 Qe2+ 31.Kd4 Qxf3
Weighted Error Value: White=1.03/ Black=0.67
0-1

A28
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2738**
■ **Bok,Benjamin** **2620**
Titled Tuesday intern op 06th Feb Early blitz (10)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.d4 exd4 5.Nxd4 Bb4 6.g3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 0-0 8.Bg2 Ne5 9.c5 d6!?
An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante.
10.cxd6 Qxd6 11.0-0 c6N
[Vorgänger: 11...Rd8 12.Qc2 c5 13.Nb3 Rb8 14.Bf4 Qc7 15.Rad1 Be6 16.Na5 Nd5 17.Bxd5 Rxd5 18.Rxd5 Bxd5 Nepomniachtchi,I (2784)-Giri,A (2764) Chessable Masters Final rapid 2020 (2.11) ½-½]
12.Rb1 Qc7 13.Qa4 Bd7 14.Qa3 Rfe8 15.Rd1 h6 16.h3 b6 17.Bf4 Nd5 18.Qc1 Nxf4 19.Qxf4 Rad8 20.g4 Qc8 21.Nf5 Ng6 22.Qf3 Bxf5 23.gxf5 Nh4 24.Qxc6 Qxf5 25.Rxd8 Qxb1+
0-1

C15

□ **Abasov,Nijat Azad** **2641**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
Gashimov Memorial Blitz 9th (5) 11.12.23
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6 5.e5 Nfd7! 6.Be3N

[6.a3 Be7 *(6...Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 c5 8.Ng3 Qc7 9.Bd2 Nc6 10.Qg4 g6 11.Bb5 cxd4 12.cxd4 Ndxe5 13.Qf4 Bd7 14.dxe5 Qxe5+ 15.Qxe5 Nxe5 16.Bxd7+ Nxd7 17.0-0 0-0 18.Rab1 b6 19.Rfc1 Rfc8 20.Nf1 Rc6 21.c3* Lane,G (2273)-Cornell Avoine 109/303 2010 (9) 1-0*)* 7.f4 c5 8.Be3 Nc6 9.dxc5 Nxc5 10.Nd4 0-0 11.Be2 Bd7 12.0-0 Rc8 13.Qd2 a6 14.Rad1 Qc7 15.Bf3 Rfd8 16.Qf2 Be8 17.Nxc6 Qxc6 18.f5 Ne4 19.Bxe4 dxe4 20.f6 Bxa3 Holloway,N (2550)-Garcia Munoz,J (2505) 78/61 Rishon Le Zion 2000 0-1]

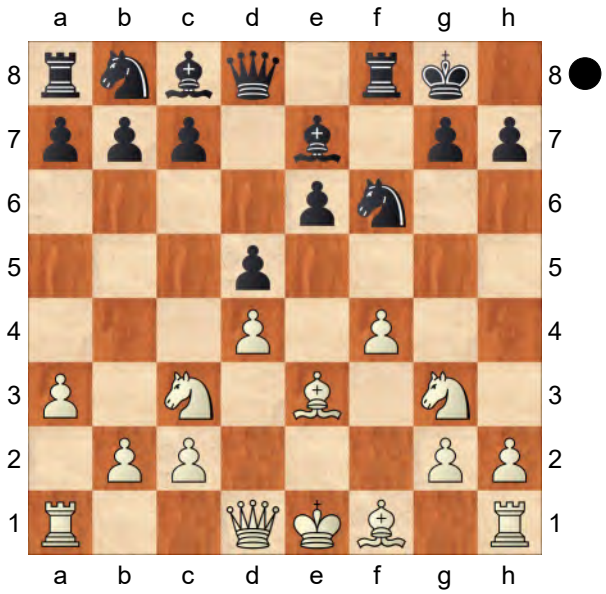
[6.f4 f5 *(6...0-0 7.a3 Ba5 8.g3 Bb6 9.Na4 c5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Nxc5 Nxc5 12.Bg2 Nc6 13.Be3 Nd7 14.0-0 Qc7 15.Nd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Nb8 17.Bf2 Bd7 18.Rc1 Rc8 19.Qd2* Rusakov,Y-Alexander,K Budapest 1984*)* 7.a3 Be7 8.g4 fxg4 9.Ng3 h5 10.h3 Bh4 11.Qd3 Nf8 12.Bd2 gxh3 13.0-0-0 Nc6 14.Rxh3 g6 15.Be1 Be7 16.Be2 Qd7 17.Bf3 Kd8 18.Kb1 b6 19.f5 gxf5 20.Nxf5 exf5 Nataf,I (2565)-Ostenstad,B (2506) Calvia ol (Men) 2004 (4) 1-0]

6...0-0 7.f4 f6 8.a3 White is slightly better. **8...Be7 9.exf6** -0.02/20

[9.g3± 0.48/20]

9...Nxf6= 10.Ng3 -0.40/20

[10.g3= -0.04/22 might be stronger.]



10...c5 0.10/22 **11.dxc5 Nc6** ...d5-d4 is the strong threat. **12.Nb5** -0.94/22

[12.Bb5= 0.10/22 remains equal.]

12...e5!∓ 13.fxe5 -1.15/19

[⌓13.Nd6 -0.76/21]

13...Ng4 14.Qd2 -1.91/19

[14.Bg1∓ -1.03/21 was the only defense.]

14...Nxe3-+

[14...Ncxe5 15.Nd6 Be6 16.Be2∓]

15.Qxe3 Bg5 16.Qb3 Be6 17.Be2 Qe7↑ Black is really pushing.

[17...Nxe5 18.Nd4 Bg4 19.Rf1∓]

18.Nd6 Nxe5 -0.99/20

[18...Nd4!-+ -1.93/20 19.Qd3 Be3]

19.Rf1 -1.55/19

[⌓19.Qxb7 -0.99/20 Qxb7 20.Nxb7]

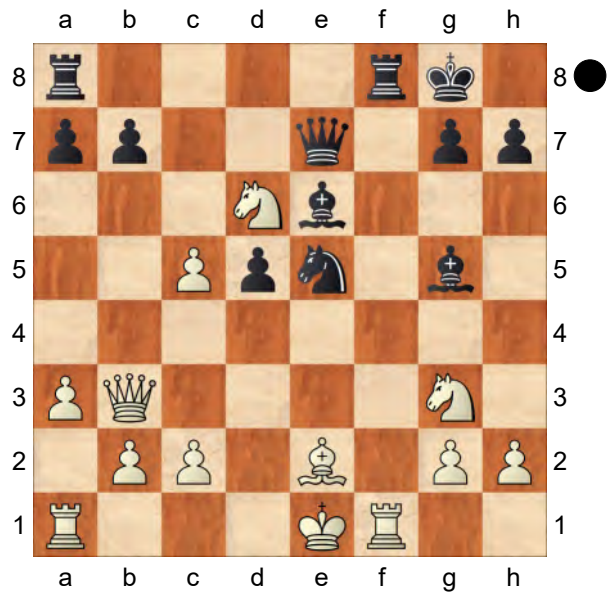
(Diagram)

19...b6? 0.13/21 **20.Qc3?** -1.99/21

[20.Ngf5= 0.13/21 and White has nothing to worry. Qd7 21.Qg3]

20...Rxf1+ -1.03/18

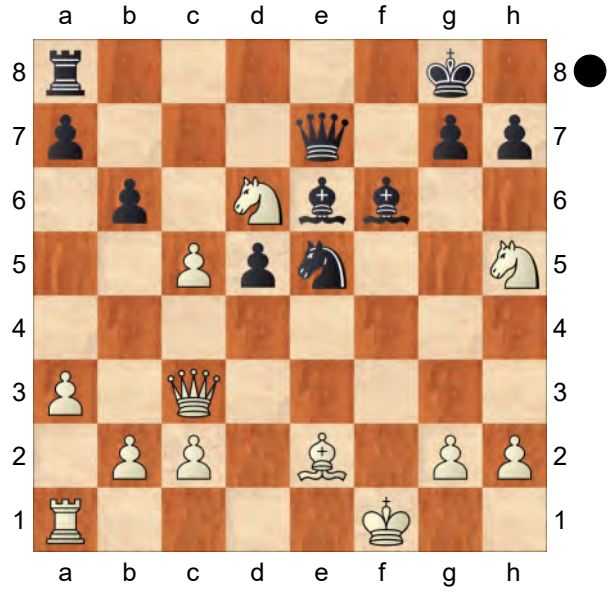
[20...Ng4-+ -1.99/21 And now ...Ng4-



e3 would win. 21.Ndf5 Bxf5 *(21...Qxc5 22.Qxg7#)* 22.Nxf5 Rxf5 23.Rxf5 Re8]

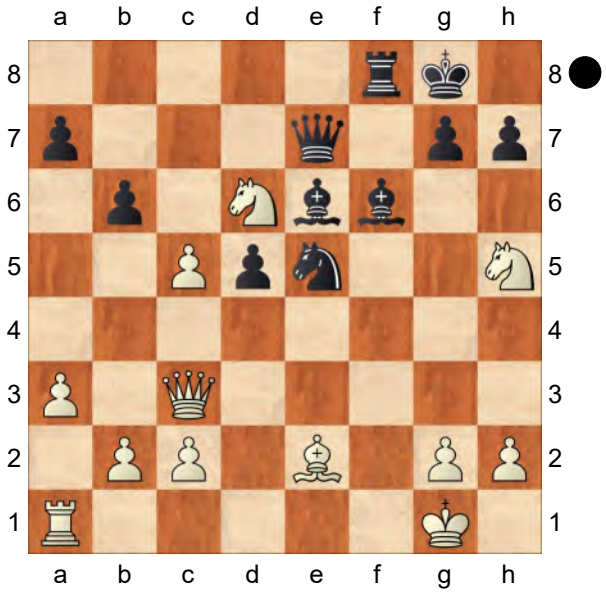
21.Kxf1∓ Bf6 Threatens to win with ... Ra8-f8. **22.Nh5** -2.62/22

[22.Ngf5∓ -1.13/17 Qf8 23.Bf3]



22...Rf8!-+ Hoping for ...b6xc5. **23.Kg1** -3.80/24

[⌓23.Nb5 -2.62/21 bxc5 24.Kg1 Nf3+ Deflection 25.Qxf3 *(25.gxf3? Bxc3 26.Nxc3 Qg5+ 27.Ng3 h5-+)* 25...Bxb2 Discovered Attack 26.Qe3 Bxa1 27.Nf4]



23...Nf3+! Deflection **24.Qxf3 Bd4+** Discovered Attack, Double Attack. This pair of bishops is nice.

[Worse is 24...bxc5 25.Nxf6+ Rxf6 26.Qg3±]

[24...Bxb2 25.Nf4 Bd4+ *(25...Bxa1? 26.Qe3∓; 25...bxc5 26.Nc8∓)* 26.Kh1 Bxa1 27.Qe3 Rxf4 28.Qxf4∓]

25.Kh1 Rxf3 26.Bxf3 bxc5

[But not 26...Bxb2 27.Re1 Bc3 *(27...bxc5? 28.Bxd5 Qxd6 29.Bxe6+ Kf8 30.Ng3-+)* 28.Re2 bxc5 29.Bg4 Qxd6 30.Rxe6]

27.Nb5 Bxb2 28.Re1 Qd7 29.Nc7 Bf7 30.Na6 Qc8 31.Be2 Bxa3 32.Rb1 Bxh5 33.Bxh5 Strongly threatening Rb1-b8. **33...g6**

[And not 33...Qxa6 34.Rb8+]

34.Be2? -6.02/21

[34.Rb8 -3.43/19 Qxb8 35.Nxb8 gxh5 36.Nc6]

34...Qe6 Black is clearly winning. **35.Bf1 c4 36.Nc7 Qc6 37.Nb5 Bc5 38.c3 a6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.56/ Black=0.33

0-1

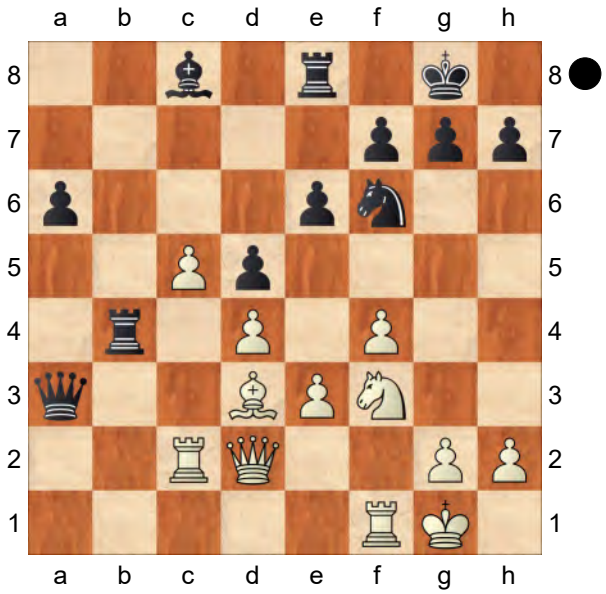
D00

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** 2727
■ **Abasov,Nijat Azad** 2641
Gashimov Memorial Blitz 9th (14)
[Kitty Kat]

D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bf4 e6 4.Nb5 Bb4+ 5.c3 Ba5 6.e3 a6 Inhibits a2-a4. **7.Na3 0-0 8.Bd3** The position is equal. **8...Nbd7 9.Nf3 c5 10.0-0 Bc7 11.Nb1 Re8 12.Ne5** -0.44/22
[12.Nbd2= -0.07/21]
12...Nxe5!∓ 13.Bxe5 Nd7 0.04/20
[13...Bxe5∓ -0.42/21 deserves consideration. 14.dxe5 Nd7]
14.Bxc7= Qxc7 15.f4
[15.Qf3 is more complex. b5 16.Nd2 Bb7 17.Qh3]
15...b5 16.Nd2 Rb8 17.Nf3 b4 0.80/22
[17...c4= 0.01/18 18.Bc2 Bb7]
18.cxb4 c4 1.10/22
[Black should play 18...cxd4 0.74/21 19.Rc1 Qb6 20.Nxd4 e5 21.fxe5 Nxe5]
19.Rc1 0.01/21
[19.Qc2± 1.10/22]
19...Rxb4 0.98/22
[19...Qa7= 0.01/21 remains equal. 20.Bc2 Rxb4]
20.b3± Qa5 21.bxc4 Qxa2 1.95/24
[21...dxc4± 1.08/22 might work better. 22.Bxc4 *(22.Rxc4 Rxc4 23.Bxc4 Bb7±)* 22...Bb7]
22.c5 Hoping for Rc1-a1. **22...Nf6 23.Rc2 Qa3 24.Qd2**

(Diagram)

Strongly threatening Rc2-a2. **24...Ne4 25.Bxe4 dxe4 26.Ne5 Qa4 27.Rfc1 Rb3 28.Nc4 Rd8 29.Ra2 Qb5 30.Nd6 Qc6** 2.29/23



[⌓30...Qd3 1.87/23 31.Qxd3 exd3]
31.Rb2+- Black is weak on the dark squares **31...Rd3 32.Qe1 Bd7 33.h3** aiming for Rb2-b7. **33...h6 34.Qh4** 1.94/22
[⌓34.Rb7 3.32/22]
34...Rf8 35.Qf2 Qd5 36.Rb6↑ White is in control. **36...a5** 2.49/22
[36...Bb5 1.86/22 is a better defense. 37.Kh2 Rd8]
37.Nc4 a4 3.63/24
[⌓37...f6 2.29/21 38.Rd6 *(38.Nxa5 Qa8+-)* 38...Qb7]
38.Ne5 a3? 5.52/20
[38...Rc8 2.77/22 39.Nxd3 *(39.Rd6 Qxd6 40.cxd6 Rxc1+ 41.Kh2 Bc8+-)* 39...exd3]
39.Rd6 Qb3 40.Nxd3 exd3 41.Rxd7 Ra8 42.c6 c6-c7 would now be deadly. **42...Qb2 43.Qxb2** -3.68/17
[43.Rd1+- 6.74/23 and all is fine. Qb8 44.c7 *(44.Rxd3 a2+-)*]
43...axb2-+ 44.Rf1
[44.Rb1? Ra1 45.Kf2 Rxb1]
44...Ra1 45.Rb7 d2 Threatens to win with ...Ra1xf1+. **46.c7**
[46.Rb8+ Kh7 47.Rxb2 Rxf1+ *(47...d1R? 48.Rbf2+-)* 48.Kxf1 d1Q+

(48...d1B? 49.c7+-) 49.Kf2 Qc1? *(49...Qa4-+)* 50.Rb7-+]

46...Rxf1+

[46...d1R 47.c8Q+ *(47.c8R+ Kh7±)* 47...Kh7 48.Qc2+ f5 49.Qc7 *(49.Rxd1 Kg6 50.Rxb2 Ra3 51.Qc6 Rxe3 52.d5 Kh5 53.d6 g6)* 49...Rxf1+ 50.Kh2 Rh1+ 51.Kg3]

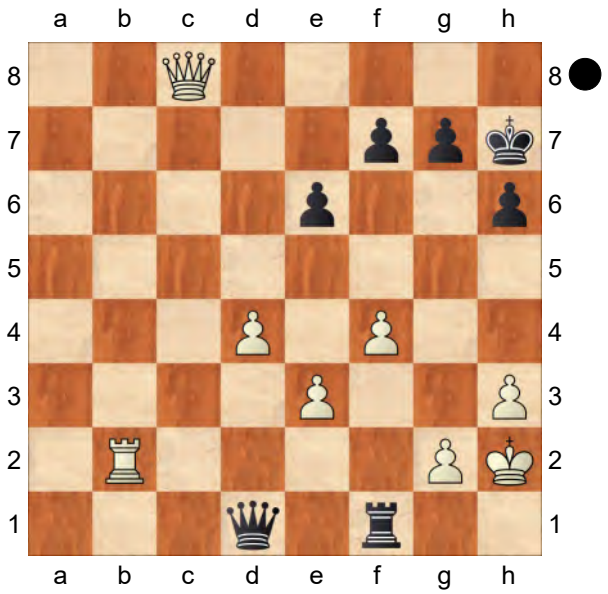
47.Kh2 -16.04/26

[⌓47.Kxf1 -4.89/26 d1Q+ *(47...d1R+? 48.Ke2±)* 48.Kf2 Qc2+ *(48...b1B? 49.c8Q+ Kh7 50.Rb2+-)* 49.Kg3]

47...d1Q

[Not 47...d1R 48.c8Q+ *(48.c8R+ Kh7=)* 48...Kh7 49.Qc2+ *(49.Rxb2 Rc1+-; 49.Rxb2 Rde1+-)*]

48.c8Q+ Kh7 (-> ...Qd1-e1) **49.Rxb2**



Qe1!

[Weaker is 49...Rh1+ 50.Kg3 Qe1+ 51.Rf2∓]

50.Qc2+ f5

Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=0.53

0-1

A13

□ **Anton Guijarro,David** **2653**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**

FIDE Grand Swiss (2) 26.10.2023

[David Cummings,Kitty Kat]

A13: English Opening: 1...e6

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3 d4 5.d3 Instead:

[5.0-0 Nc6 6.e3 opening the centre, in contrast to our main game where White leaves the e2-pawn in place. e5 7.exd4 e4 8.d5 is covered in Esipenko-Keymer in this month's Update.]

5...Nc6 This is the trending move in recent high-level games. Alternatively:

[5...c5 6.e4 gives White a decent structure, see Donchenko-Oleksienko in the Archives]

[5...Bb4+ 6.Nbd2 a5 is another valid approach for Black, see Dubov-Vocaturo in the Archives.]

6.0-0 Bc5 7.Na3 We have also looked at the other knight placement:

[7.Nbd2 and now:

A) 7...0-0 8.Nb3 Be7 9.e3 Opening the centre is an important try. dxe3 10.Bxe3 Ng4 *(10...a5 11.h3 a4 12.Nbd4* was played in Nepomniachtchi,I (2771) -Erigaisi,A (2712) Chess.com INT 2023 1-0 (49), and here *Bd7* is adequate for Black *)* 11.Bc5 Bxc5 12.Nxc5 b6 which is the subject of Nepomniachtchi-Vidit in the Archives.;

B) 7...a5 8.Nb3 Inhibits e5. Be7 9.e3 dxe3 10.Bxe3 Ng4 11.Bc5 0-0 12.d4 a4 was featured in the 2021 World Championship clash Nepomniachtchi-Carlsen, which can be found in the Archives.]

7...0-0 8.Nc2 a5 Alternatively:. The position is equal.

[8...e5 9.a3 a5 10.b3 h6 *(10...Re8 11.Rb1 Qe7* 14. English Lines with g3-2.Nf3 d5 3.g3 Nf6 4.b3 #2*)* 11.Rb1 Qe7 12.Qe1 e4 with balanced chances in Bjerre-Warmerdam in the Archives.]

9.b3 e5 10.Bg5N -0.64/19 White attempts to deal with the question of what to do with (often-problematic) c1-bishop, but this idea doesn't test Black.

[10.e3= -0.21/18 might be stronger.]

10...h6∓ 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.a3 White is weak on the dark squares **12...Qe7** Black has a nice grip on the dark squares. The engine already evaluates Black as being slightly better. Black is more active. **13.Qc1 Bg4 14.Re1** -1.03/19

[14.Rb1∓ -0.60/19 deserves consideration.]

14...Ra6 -0.55/20 The first new move, although the more direct move:

[14...f5 is more aggressive. Now 15.Nd2 e4 16.f3 -1.33/21 *(16.b4 axb4 17.Nb3 bxa3 18.Nxc5 Qxc5* is also good for Black*; ⌓16.h3* -0.78/21 *Bh5 17.dxe4)* 16...Bh5∓ 17.fxe4 f4 18.Bf3? -3.21/21 *(18.gxf4∓* -1.57/19 *Rxf4 19.Rf1)* 18...fxg3-+ 19.hxg3 Qg5 gave Black a very strong attack in Stluka,P (2170)-Ptacnik, S (2142) Czech Republic 2008 â-â (31)]

[14...f5∓ -1.03/19 15.Qb2 Ra6]

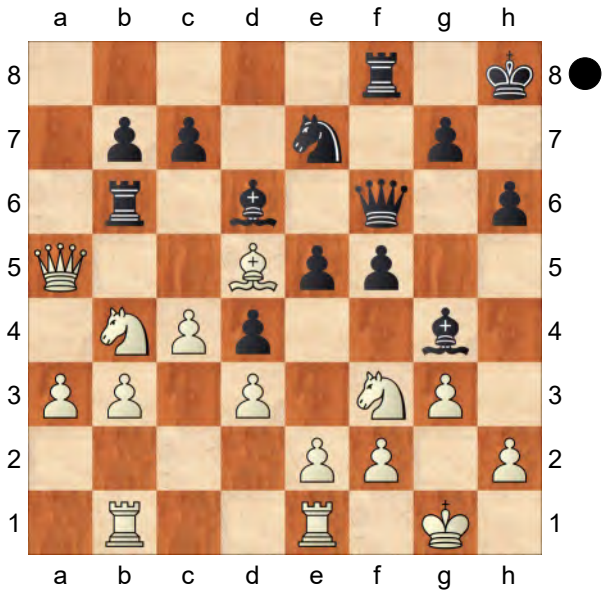
15.Rb1 Rb6 16.Nd2 f5 Dodges Ne4 **17.Bd5+?!** -1.18/19 A bit of shot in the air, and the bishop ends up being traded in the subsequent complications. Instead:

[17.b4! is a better try for counterplay, for example axb4 18.Nb3 Nxc5 would now be deadly. bxa3 White must now prevent ...Ra8. 19.Nxc5 Rxb1 20.Qxb1 Qxc5 21.h3! Bh5 22.Qxb7 which is far from clear.]

[17.b4∓ -0.56/23 axb4 18.Bxc6 bxc6 *(18...Rxc6 19.axb4 Ba7 20.Ra1∓)* 19.axb4 Bxb4 20.Nxb4 Rxb4 21.e3 Rxb1 22.Qxb1]

17...Kh8 18.Nf3 Qf6! 19.Qd2 Ne7 20.Qxa5 Bd6 21.Nb4

[21.c5 Nxd5 22.cxb6 c6 and Black has terrific coordination.]



Or: Prevents Ra6. **21...Rxb4!** A powerful exchange sac. **22.axb4 c6?!** -0.65/20 Trapping the d5-bishop but:

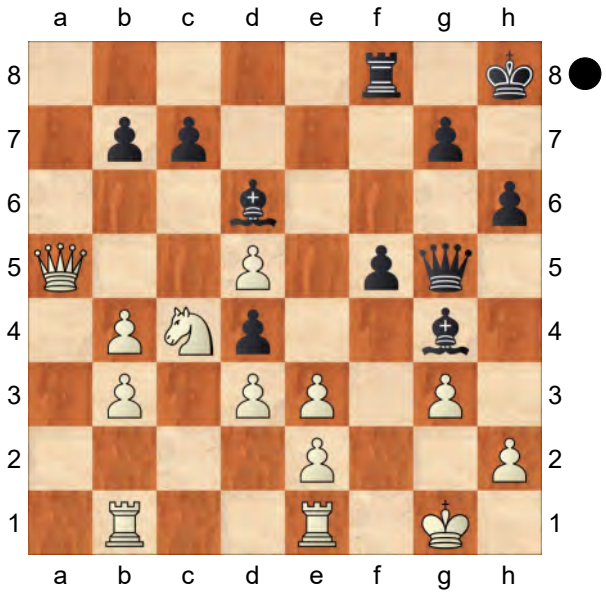
[22...Nxd5! was stronger, with a sample line running 23.cxd5 e4! 24.Nd2 e3 25.fxe3 Qg5! 26.Nc4

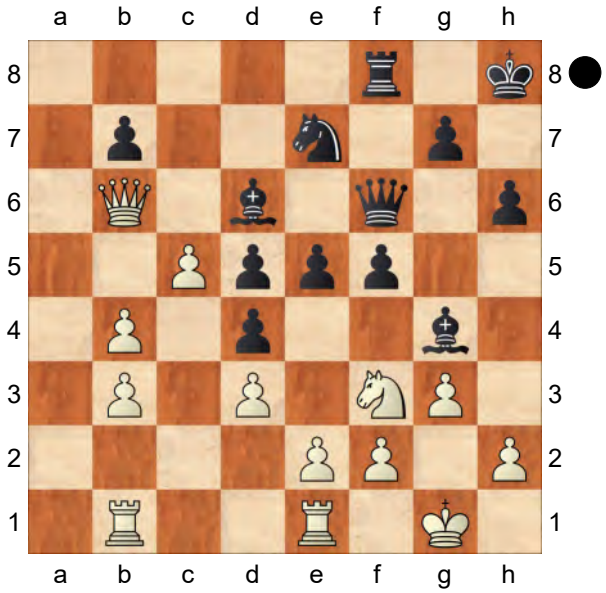
(Diagram)

Bh3! and Black is breaking through. Repels Rf1]

[22...Nxd5∓ -1.47/21 23.cxd5 *(23.Qxd5 c6∓)* 23...e4 *(23...f4 24.b5=)*]

23.Qb6! cxd5 24.c5





Bb8
[24...Bxf3 25.exf3 Bb8 26.Qxb7=]
25.Qxf6 gxf6 The dust has settled in a complex endgame where Black has two minor pieces for a rook and pawn. Black continues to play with concentration.
[25...Rxf6?! 26.Nd2=]
26.Ra1 f4↑ Black is really pushing.
27.Ra8 Giving Black time to stall White's queenside pawns.
[27.b5 gives White better chances to activate the queenside majority.]
27...fxg3 28.fxg3 -1.59/21 Saddling White with another pawn island.
[28.hxg3 keeps a more compact pawn structure.]
[⌓28.hxg3 -0.89/23 Rg8 29.Rea1]
28...Bd7 -1.21/22
[⌓28...Kg7 -1.59/21 Strongly threatening ...e4. 29.b5 Nf5]
29.Rea1∓ Kg7 -0.95/22
[⌓29...Rc8 -1.43/20 30.Nh4 e4]
30.Kf2 -1.98/19 Another slow move.
[30.R1a5 Nc6 ...e4! is the strong threat. *(30...Nf5 31.b5)* 31.Rb5 gives White active counterplay]
[30.R1a5∓ -0.95/22]
30...Nf5-+ 31.R1a5 e4 Now Black is crashing through, while White has yet to create any threats. **32.Nh4** -4.26/23
[32.g4 -1.80/21 was called for.]
32...Nxh4 33.gxh4 Kf7 And now ...Rg8 would win.
[33...Bxh2 34.Rxf8 Kxf8 35.b5=]
34.b5? -4.96/21
[34.Ke1 -2.30/20]
34...Rg8 (-> ...e3+)
[34...Bxh2 35.Rxf8+ Kxf8 36.Ra8+ Be8 37.b4±]
35.dxe4 dxe4 36.R5a7 -9.51/24 Desperation.
[⌓36.c6 -4.77/21 bxc6 37.b6]
36...Bxa7 37.Rxa7 Bh3
[37...Bxb5 38.Rxb7+ Ke6 39.Rxb5=]
38.c6 Ke6 -8.75/21
[⌓38...Rg2+ -#14/20 39.Ke1 e3 *(39...Rxh2? loses. 40.cxb7 Rh1+ 41.Kf2+-; 39...Rg1+? 40.Kd2-+)* 40.Kd1 d3 *(40...Rxh2? 41.cxb7 Rh1+ 42.Kc2+-; 40...Rg1+? 41.Kc2-+)* 41.Rxb7+ Ke6 42.Rg7 Rxg7 43.exd3 Bg4+ 44.Kc2 e2 *(44...Kd6 gets mated. 45.b6 Kxc6 46.b7 Kxb7 47.d4 Bf5+ 48.Kc3 Rc7+ 49.Kb4 e2 50.Ka3 e1Q*

51.Ka4 Kb6 52.b4 Bc2+ 53.Ka3 Qa1#) 45.c7 Rxc7+ *(45...e1B?* is the wrong capture. *46.c8Q+ Kf7 47.Qb7+ Kg8 48.Qa8+ Kf7 49.b6+-)* 46.Kd2 Ra7 47.b4 Ra1 *(47...Ra2+ 48.Kc3 e1Q+ 49.Kb3 Qa1 50.h5 Kd5 51.h4 Bd1#)* 48.Kc3 e1Q+ *(48...e1R 49.Kd4 Rac1 50.b6 Bf5 51.h5 Red1 52.Ke3 Rc2 53.Kf4 Rxd3 54.h4 Rf2#)* 49.Kc4 Rc1+ *(49...Qxh4 50.Kc5 Qxh2 51.Kd4 Rc1 52.Ke3 Qg3+ 53.Ke4 Qe5#)* 50.Kb3 Qc3+ 51.Ka4 Ra1#]

39.c7 e3+ Black mates. **40.Kf3 Ke5** Mate follows after: **41.b6 Bg2#**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.74/ Black=0.25 (precise)

0-1

B85

□ **Sosa,Tomas** **2562**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2756**
Menorca op 3rd (5) 04.04.2024

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.a3 d6 7.Be2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 Qc7 10.f4 a6 11.Qe1 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 13.Qg3 Bb7 14.Kh1 Rad8! now scores much better than the old 14...Bc6.punktet besser als das ältere 14...Lc6. **15.Rae1 Ne8 16.Qe3 Rd7 17.Bd3 Bf6N**

[Vorgänger: 17...Qd8 18.Rf3 Bf6 19.Bb6 Qb8 20.e5 Bxf3 21.exf6 Bh5 22.Bd4 Nxf6 23.Bxf6 gxf6 Jaracz,P (2472)-Lazavik,D (2553) Titled Tuesday intern op 13th Jun Early blitz 2023 (5) 0-1]

18.Bxf6 Nxf6 19.e5 Ne8 20.f5 exf5 21.Bxf5 Re7 22.e6 Nf6 23.exf7+ Rfxf7 24.Qh3 Rxe1 25.Rxe1 Re7 26.Qg3 Rxe1+ 27.Qxe1 Qc5 28.Bd3 Qg5 29.Bf1 Kf7 30.Qf2 Ke6 31.Ne2 Ne4 32.Qb6 Bd5 33.b3 Nc5 34.Qb8 Ke5 35.Qe8+ Be6 36.Ng1 Qf6 37.Qh5+ Qf5 38.Nf3+ Kf6 39.Qh4+ Kf7 40.b4 Nd7 41.Ng5+ Ke8 42.Bd3 Qf6 43.h3 Bd5 44.Qg3 h6 45.Ne4 Bxe4 46.Bxe4 Qe5 47.Qf3 Qa1+ 48.Kh2 Qe5+ 49.Kh1 Qa1+ 50.Kh2 Qe5+
½-½

D38

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
■ **Svane,Frederik** **2626**
FIDE Grand Swiss (1) 25.10.2023
[Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar]

1.d4 My favorite game from the tournament!Meine Lieblingspartie des Turniers! **1...Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nc3 Bb4 6.Bf4 Ne4** now supersedes 6...0-0.löst 6...0-0 inzwischen ab. **7.Rc1 Nd7**

[7...Nc6 is the mainline ist die Hauptvariante.]

8.Nd2 Nxd2 9.Qxd2 c6 10.a3N

[Vorgänger: 10.e3 0-0 11.Bd3 Nf6 12.h3 Re8 13.0-0 a5 14.Qc2 g6 15.Na4 Ne4 16.Rfd1 Prohaszka,P (2585)-Shevchenko,K (2694) Budapest Hetenyi Memorial 2023 (2) ½-½]

10...Be7 11.e3

[11.Nxd5? This is a countertrap! Das ist eine Gegenfalle! cxd5 12.Bc7 Bg5! 13.f4 Bh4+ 14.g3 Qe7 15.gxh4 0-0 and black is doing very well und Schwarz steht sehr gut.]

11...Nf6 12.h4!? Creative. Kreativ.

[12.Bd3 White really wants to take control of the b1-h7 diagonal but the problem is the other bishop gets

attacked: Weiß möchte wirklich die Kontrolle über die Diagonale b1-h7 übernehmen, aber das Problem ist, dass der andere Läufer angegriffen wird: Nh5 13.Be5 f6 14.Bg3 This is the normal way of playing. Dies ist die normale Art zu spielen.]

[12.h3 Bf5 Now black takes the important diagonal.Jetzt übernimmt Schwarz die wichtige Diagonale.]

12...0-0

[12...Bf5 13.h5 h6 14.f3 with an interesting game ahead mit einer interessanten Partie vor uns.]

13.Bd3 The important diagonal has been gained by us while keeping the other bishop. Die wichtige Diagonale wurde von uns besetzt, während wir den anderen Läufer behalten haben. **13...g6**

[13...Nh5 14.Be5]

14.Bg5 Re8 15.f3 A useful move in general as it is helpful both for a central break with e4 as well as for an attack with g4/h5 etc.Ein nützlicher Zug im Allgemeinen, da er sowohl für einen zentralen Durchbruch mit e4 als auch für einen Angriff mit g4/h5 usw. hilfreich ist. **15...Kg7 16.Kd1!!** because of this move this game is my fav! :) With this move white's king seeks safety on the queenside and launches an attack on the kingside.wegen dieses Zuges ist diese Partie mein Favorit! :) Mit diesem Zug sucht Weiß Sicherheit für seinen König am Damenflügel und startet einen Angriff am Königsflügel **16...Ng8**

17.Bf4! Wmportant. Wichtig.

[17.Bxe7 Qxe7 The problem is there is no good way to protect e3. Das Problem ist, dass es keine gute Möglichkeit gibt, e3 zu schützen.]

17...Bxh4 18.e4!

[18.g4 Bg5 I didn't want to allow the trade of these bishops although this is also pretty good.Ich wollte den Tausch dieser Läufer nicht zulassen, obwohl das auch ziemlich gut ist.]

18...Be6 19.Kc2 h6! Aiming to trade the dark squared bishops.Ziel ist es, die schwarzfeldrigen Läufer zu tauschen.

20.g4

[20.e5 This is even stronger. Dies ist sogar noch stärker.]

20...Rc8

[20...Bg5 21.e5 In this kind of position, though black is a pawn up he's under tremendous pressure on the h-file + white's centre is pretty strong. When f4-f5 happens it's just game over!In einer solchen Stellung steht Schwarz, obwohl er einen Bauern mehr hat, unter enormem Druck auf der h-Linie und das weiße Zentrum ist ziemlich stark. Wenn f4-f5 passiert, ist die Partie einfach vorbei!]

21.e5 c5 22.Be3

[22.Kb1 cxd4 23.Nb5 Rxc1+ 24.Qxc1 This is even stronger. I noticed this during the game but I believed what I played is also pretty powerful. Das ist sogar noch stärker. Ich bemerkte dies während der Partie, aber ich glaubte, was ich spielte, ist auch ziemlich kräftig.]

22...g5

[22...c4 23.Be2 f5! This is a superb nice resource. white is of course still on top but black stabilizes a bit. Das ist eine super schöne Ressource. Weiß ist natürlich immer noch obenauf, aber Schwarz stabilisiert sich ein wenig. 24.Nb5±]

23.Kb1 The king finally gets totally out of the way. All of white's pieces are

positioned superbly while black is poorly coordinated.Der König ist endlich völlig aus der Schusslinie. Alle weißen Figuren sind hervorragend positioniert, während Schwarz schlecht koordiniert ist. **23...cxd4 24.Bxd4 Ne7 25.Rxh4! gxh4 26.Rh1** Objectively a mistake. Objektiv ein Fehler.

[26.f4! Nc6 27.f5 This is just killer although it still continues: Das ist einfach mörderisch, obwohl es immer noch weitergeht: Rh8 I felt this has to be good but couldn't find anything concrete here. And as I was looking for options I noticed a beautfiul trap and couldn't resist going for it. Ich hatte das Gefühl, dass es gut sein muss, aber ich konnte hier nichts Konkretes finden. Und als ich nach Möglichkeiten suchte, bemerkte ich eine schöne Falle und konnte nicht widerstehen, zuzugreifen.]

26...Nc6 He falls right into the trap with little time on the clock.Mit wenig Zeit auf der Uhr tappt er direkt in die Falle.

[26...Rh8 and black has way better defensive chances.und Schwarz hat viel bessere Verteidigungsmöglichkeiten.]

27.Bf2! Nxe5 28.Bxh4 f6

[28...Nxf3 29.Qxh6+! Boom! Bumm! Kxh6 30.Bf6+ Nh4 31.Rxh4#]

29.Qxh6+! Same concept.Dasselbe Konzept. **29...Kf7**

[29...Kxh6 30.Bxf6#]

30.Bg6+ Nxg6 31.Qh7+ Kf8 32.Qxg6 and the attack is massive. Just some final calculations were required. und der Angriff ist massiv. Es waren lediglich einige letzte Berechnungen erforderlich. **32...Rc6** The only way to deal with white's threat but not quite enough. Die einzige Möglichkeit, der weißen Drohung zu begegnen, aber nicht ganz ausreichend. **33.Bxf6 Bf5+ 34.Qxf5 Rxf6**

[34...Qxf6 35.Rh8+! Kf7 *(35...Ke7 36.Nxd5+)* 36.Qh7+ Qg7 37.Qxg7+ Kxg7 38.Rxe8+-]

35.Rh8+ Ke7

[35...Kf7 36.Qh5+ Rg6 37.Rh7++-]

36.Nxd5+ Qxd5 37.Rxe8+ and white wins the queen on the next move. und Weiß gewinnt im nächsten Zug die Dame.

1-0

E49

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**

■ **Indjic,Aleksandar** **2589**

Wch Blitz Samarkand (10) 29.12.2023

[Kitty Kat]

E49: Nimzo-Indian: Rubinstein: 5 Bd3 d5 6 a3 Bxc3+ 7 bxc3

White finds a very promising idea in a rare sideline of the Rossolimo...that should stay rare. **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 0-0 7.cxd5 exd5 8.e3 b6 9.Bd3 Ba6 10.Ne2 c5 11.0-0 Bxd3 12.Qxd3 Re8 13.Ng3 Nc6 14.Bb2 h5** 14...c4 is not played anymore. 14...c4 wird inzwischen seltener gespielt. **15.Rae1**

[15.e4 h4 16.Nf5 dxe4 17.fxe4 Rxe4 18.Nxg7 Ne5 19.Qc2 cxd4 20.cxd4 Rc8 21.Qb3 Neg4 22.Nf5 Qd5 23.Qd3 Rce8 24.Bc1 Re2 25.Nxh4 Qe4 26.Qxe4 Nxe4 27.Nf5 Nd2 28.Bxd2 Rxd2 29.Rf3 Nf6 Bu,X (2711)-Gupta,A (2627) China-India Summit, Liaocheng 2017 (3.4) 1-0]

15...g6 0.59/21

[15...cxd4= 0.22/25 16.cxd4 h4]
[15...h4 16.Nh1 Qd7 17.Nf2 cxd4 18.cxd4 Ne7 19.e4 Ng6 20.Nh3 Nh7 21.Qb3 Rac8 22.Rf2 Nhf8 23.Qe3 Rc4 24.Nf4 Nxf4 25.Qxf4 h3 26.Qg3 Rc6 27.Kh1 hxg2+ 28.Rxg2 Rg6 29.Qf2 Ree6 30.Rg3 Rahtkens,K (2423)-Samojlov,S (2517) USSR 37/292 1983 (5.3) ½-½]

16.e4N

[16.Nh1 Rc8 17.Nf2 Qc7 18.Re2 cxd4 19.cxd4 Nd8 20.Rc1 Qd7 21.Rxc8 Qxc8 22.e4 Ne6 23.Rc2 Qb7 24.Qc3 Re7 25.Qc8+ Qxc8 26.Rxc8+ Re8 27.Rc6 Rd8 28.Kf1 Kf8 29.Ke2 Ke7 30.Ke3 Kd7 5.Qh5+ Rf7 (2668)-Sekov,A (2512) 44/178 Namestovo 1987 (2.4) 1-0 31.Rc1 Rc8 32.Rxc8 Kxc8 33.a4 Ne8 34.Ba3 N8c7 35.Nd3 Kd7 36.g4 hxg4 37.Ne5+ Ke8 38.Nxg4 dxe4 39.fxe4 f5 40.Ne5 fxe4 41.Kxe4 Ng5+ 42.Kd3 Nh3 43.Nxg6 Kf7 44.Ne7 b5 45.a5 Ke6 Berkes,F (2659)-Hera,I (2574) 11th EICC Men 2010 (7) 1-0]

16...h4 White is slightly better. **17.Nh1 Nh5 18.Qd2** 0.22/25 Prevents Nh5-f4.

[18.Nf2± 0.72/21]

18...cxd4= 19.cxd4 Na5 20.Bc3N -0.26/21

[Vorgänger: 20.Qh6 -0.30/22 20.Qd2-d1 0.31 Nc4 21.Ba1 Nxa3 22.Rc1 -0.90/22 Inhibits Na3-c2. *(22.f4!=* -0.20/22 remains equal.*)* 22...Qf6∓ Threatens to win with ...Qf6-f4. 23.Nf2 -1.42/22 *(⌓23.Qe3* -0.79/23 *Nc4 24.Rxc4 dxc4 25.d5)* 23...Qf4∓ 24.Ng4 Qxh6 -1.27/17 *(24...Rac8-+* -1.69/23 *25.Rxc8 Rxc8 26.Qxf4 Nxf4)* 25.Nxh6+∓ Kg7 26.Ng4 Aleksandrov,A (2574)-Abasov,N (2668) Mikhail Tal Blitz 2020 (5) ½-½]

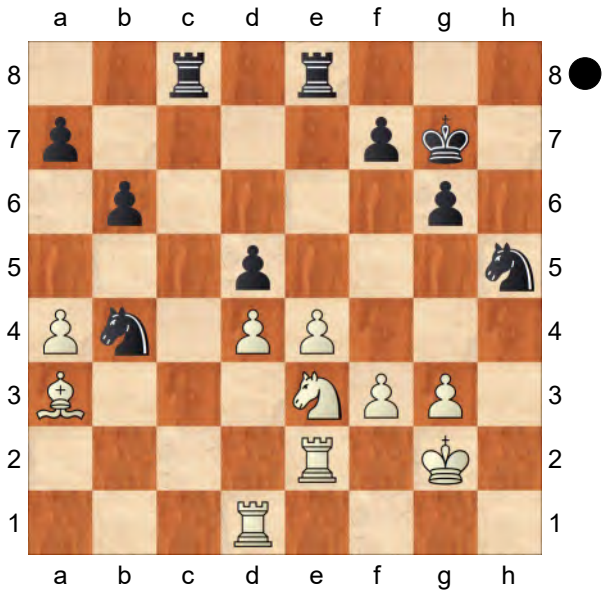
[20.Qd1!± 0.50/24]

20...Nc4↑ Black has the initiative. **21.Qh6 Qf6 22.Nf2 Qf4 23.Qxf4 Nxf4 24.g3 hxg3 25.hxg3 Nh5** A dynamic duo of knights. **26.Kg2 Rac8 27.a4 Na3 28.Bb2 Nc2 29.Re2 Rc4 30.Rd1 Nb4 31.Ng4 Kg7?** 2.08/22 Black cannot hold the game after this.

[31...Rcc8= 0.30/23]

32.Ne3+- Rcc8 33.Ba3

[33.Nxd5? too greedy. Nxd5 34.Rdd2 Nc3 35.Bxc3 Rxc3-+]



Deflection **33...Nc6 34.Nxd5**

[Less strong is 34.exd5 Na5+-]

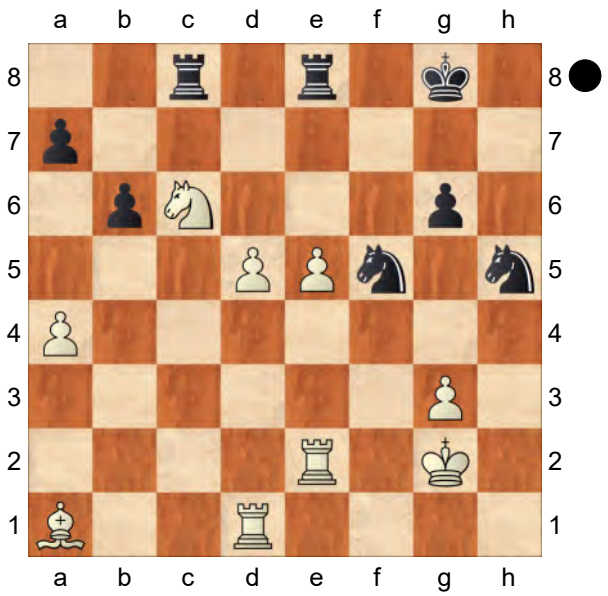
34...f5 35.Bb2 Rd1-c1 is the strong threat. **35...fxe4 36.fxe4 Na5 37.Nb4 Nc4 38.Ba1 Kg8 39.d5 Nd6 40.e5 Nf5 41.Nc6**

(Diagram)

aiming for g3-g4. **41...Nhg7?** 5.87/21

[41...Nfxg3 2.95/22 42.Rc2 Nf5]

42.g4 White is clearly winning. **42...Ne7 43.Nxe7+ Rxe7 44.e6 Rc4 45.Kg3 Ne8 46.d6 Nxd6 47.Rxd6**



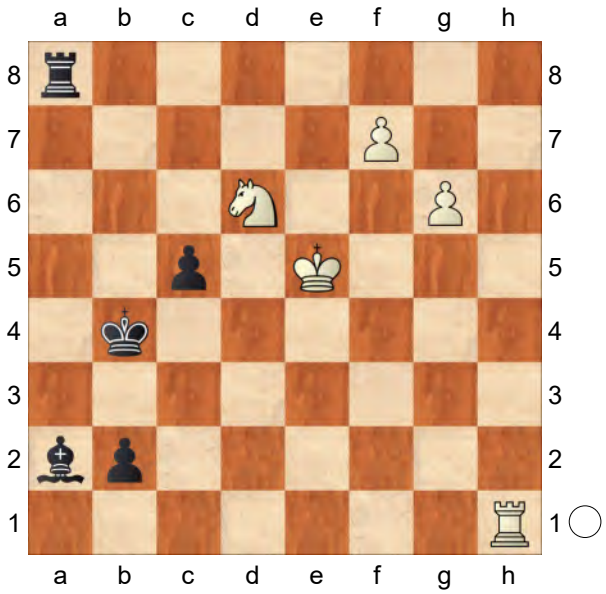
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.42
1-0

C65

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
■ **Jumabayev,Rinat** **2585**
FIDE Grand Swiss (5) 29.10.2023
[Kitty Kat]

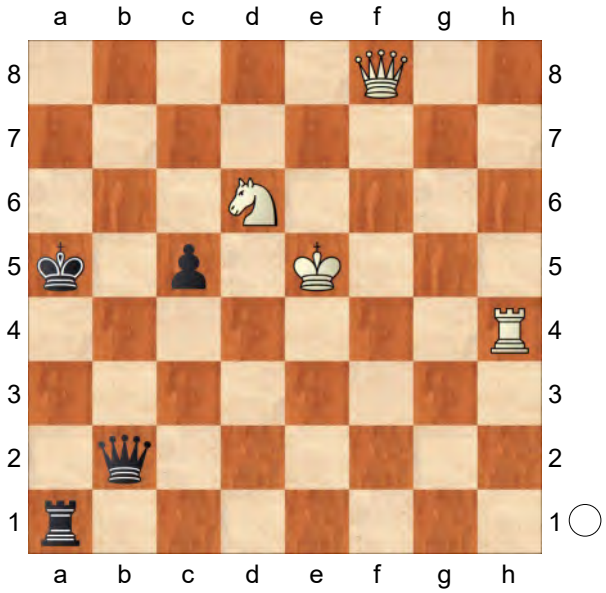
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 d5 6.exd5 Qxd5 7.Bc4 Qd6 8.b4 White has an edge. **8...Bb6 9.Nbd2!** outshines the older 9.a4. erfolgreicher als das alte 9.a4.
[9.a4 e4 10.dxe4 Qxd1+ 11.Kxd1 Nxe4 12.Kc2 Bf5 13.Nh4 Bd7 14.Re1 f5 15.Nxf5 Bxf5 16.f3 Ne5 17.fxe4 Bg4 18.h3 Nxc4 19.hxg4 0-0 20.Re2 a5 21.Nd2 Ne3+ 22.Kb3 axb4 23.cxb4 Rfd8 4.d4 ♘f6 5. ♗c4 (2796)-Hantel,T (2808) RLPF-ch U13 Wolfstein 1994 (8) 1-0]
9...Bg4N 0.58/22
[Vorgänger: 9...Bf5 10.Qe2 -0.31/21 *(10.Ng5!= 0.13/22 0-0 11.Qf3)* 10...0-0-0∓ 11.a4 -1.01/21 *(11.Ng5= -0.29/22 Bxd3 12.Nxf7 Bxe2 13.Nxd6+ cxd6 14.Bxe2)* 11...e4 12.dxe4 Strongly threatening 0-0! Nxe4? 1.31/18 *(12...Rhe8!∓* -1.05/24 and life is bright. *13.0-0 Bxe4)* 13.Nxe4± Bxe4 14.0-0 Bxf3 15.Qxf3 Threatens to win with a4-a5! a5 16.bxa5 0.94/21 *(* White should try *16.Bg5+-* 1.66/21 Ra1-d1 would now be deadly. *f6 17.Bf4)* 16...Nxa5 1.46/18 Pichot,A (2625)-Nakamura,H (2736) Titled Tuesday intern op 04th Jan blitz 2022 (10) 0-1 *(⌓16...Bxa5* 0.94/21 *17.Rb1 Rd7)*]
[9...Bf5= 0.19/22 10.Ng5 0-0 *(10...Bxd3 11.Bxf7+ Kd7 12.Be6+ Ke7 13.Nc4±)* 11.Nde4 Nxe4 12.dxe4 Qxd1+ 13.Kxd1 Bg4+ 14.f3 Bc8 Lesson 18: Spanish,B-Spanish Berlin 5. c3 d5 6. ex]
[9...0-0 10.0-0 Bf5 11.Qc2 Rad8 12.a4 a5 13.b5 Ne7 Lesson 18: Spanish,B-Spanish Berlin 5. c3 d5 6. ex]
10.a4 e4! 11.dxe4 a5 12.bxa5 Nxa5 13.Bb5+ c6 14.Be2 0-0-0 15.0-0 aiming for e4-e5. **15...Rhe8 16.e5 Qe6 17.exf6**
[17.Qc2 feels hotter. Bf5 18.Qb2 Bc7 19.Re1]
17...Qxe2 18.Qxe2
[18.fxg7 Bxf3 19.gxf3 Qe5∓]
18...Rxe2 19.fxg7 Rg8! 20.Nd4 Ree8 21.Ba3 Hoping for Ba3-f8. **21...Rxg7 22.Rfe1 Rd8** 1.16/22
[22...Rxe1+± 0.41/22 23.Rxe1 Bd7]
23.Rab1± Bc7 24.Re7 Bh3 25.g3 b6 1.59/23
[⌓25...Rd7 0.96/21]
26.Bb4 And now Bb4xa5 would win.

26...Nb7 27.Nc4 White has more active pieces. A dynamic duo of knights.
27...Rg6 28.Rxf7 c5 29.Nb5
[29.Rxh7 Bd7±]
29...Rd7 30.Rxd7 Bxd7 31.Ba3 Nb5xc7 is the strong threat. **31...Be6** 2.19/22
[31...Bf5± 1.52/19 32.Rc1 Be6]
32.Ne3 1.16/19
[32.Na7++- 2.19/22 Kd7 33.Nxb6+ Bxb6 34.Rxb6]
32...Bf4 1.74/24
[32...Na5± 1.16/19 33.Nxc7 Discovered Attack Kxc7]
33.Bc1+- Na5 34.Ng2 0.95/23
[34.Nd5!+- 1.76/22 Bxd5 35.Bxf4]
34...Bb8 1.55/23
[Black should play 34...Bxc1 0.95/23 35.Rxc1 Bb3]
35.Bf4± Bb3 36.Bxb8 Kxb8 37.f4 Bxa4 38.f5 Rg8 39.Ne3 Repels Na5-c4 **39...Rd8** 2.02/22 Repels Nb5-d6
[39...Kb7± 1.50/20 40.c4 Kc6]
40.Na3 Bb3 1.75/21
[40...Kc7± 1.22/21 41.f6 Rf8]
41.Kf2 0.99/19
[41.c4+- 1.75/21]
41...Kc7 1.63/19
[41...Rd2+± 0.99/19 was necessary. 42.Kg1 Rd3]
42.Kf3 0.97/20
[42.Rb2+- 1.63/19]
42...Kc6 1.45/19
[⌓42...Rd2 0.97/20]
43.g4 Rd2 44.f6 Kd7 3.09/21
[44...Ba2 1.65/20 is a better defense.]
45.Re1 Rxh2 46.c4? 0.68/16
[46.Nf5+- 3.04/18]
46...Ra2± 47.Nb5 Nxc4 48.Nxc4
[48.Nf5 is interesting. Nd2+ 49.Kg3 Be6 50.Nc7]
48...Bxc4 Endgame. KRB-KRN
49.Re7+ Kc6 50.Na7+ Kd6!
[50...Kd5 51.f7 *(51.Rxh7 Ke5=)* 51...Ra1 52.Rd7+ *(52.f8B Rf1+* Skewer *53.Ke3 Rxf8∓)* 52...Ke6 53.f8N+±]
51.Nc8+ Kc6 52.Rxh7 Ra8 1.02/21
[52...Ra1!= 0.09/22 keeps the balance.]
53.Ne7+± Kd6 54.Kf4 b5? 4.90/24
[54...Ke6!± 0.63/19]
55.Nf5++-
[55.g5 b4 56.Nf5+ Kc6+-]
55...Kc6 56.g5 b4 57.g6 b3 White must now prevent ...b3-b2. **58.f7?** 0.00/25
[Better is 58.Rh1+- 4.35/22]
58...b2= 59.Rh1 Really sharp! **59...Ba2** 3.86/20 Against Rh1-b1
[59...Bxf7= 0.00/25 and Black stays safe. 60.gxf7 Rf8]
60.Ke5+-
[60.Rh6 Ra4+ 61.Kg5 b1Q=]
60...Kb5 61.Nd6+? 0.61/17
[61.Rf1+- 4.70/22]
61...Kb4±



62.Ne8? 0.04/14
[62.Kf6!+- 1.66/23]
62...Bxf7!= 63.gxf7 KRN-KR **63...Ra1⇄**

Black is not keeping still **64.Rh4+**
[64.f8R? Rxh1 65.Nd6 b1Q-+ *(65...b1B 66.Rf4+ Ka3 67.Nc4+ Kb4 68.Nd6+ Kb3 69.Rf3+ Ka4 70.Rf4+ Kb3 71.Rf3+ Ka4 72.Rf4+ Kb3=)*]
64...Ka5 65.f8Q
[65.f8R Re1+ *(65...b1R 66.Nd6±)* 66.Kf6 b1Q-+ *(66...b1R 67.Nd6±)*]
65...b1Q?? 7.33/19
[65...Re1+= 0.05/22 66.Kd5 b1Q 67.Qxc5+ *(67.Kxc5* gets mated. *Qb6+ 68.Kd5 Qe6+ 69.Kc5 Rc1+ 70.Kd4 Rd1+ 71.Kc3 Qe3+ 72.Kc2 Rd2+ 73.Kc1 Qe1#)* 67...Qb5]
66.Nd6+- White threatens Qf8-a8+ and mate. **66...Qb2+**

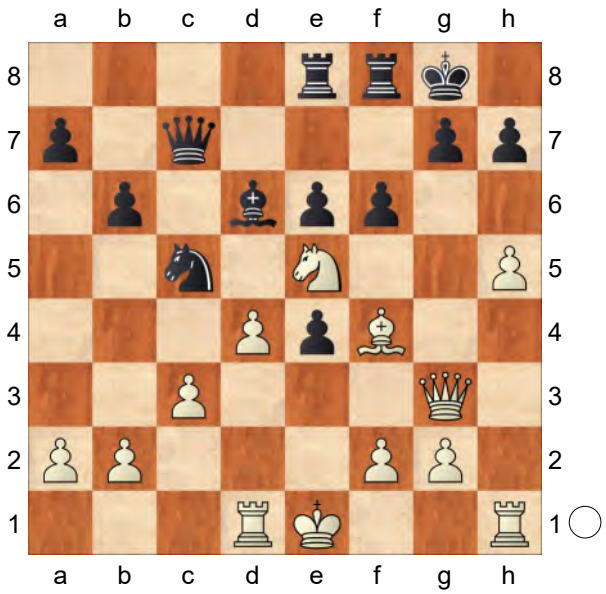


67.Ke6! Qe2+ 68.Kd7
Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.43
1-0

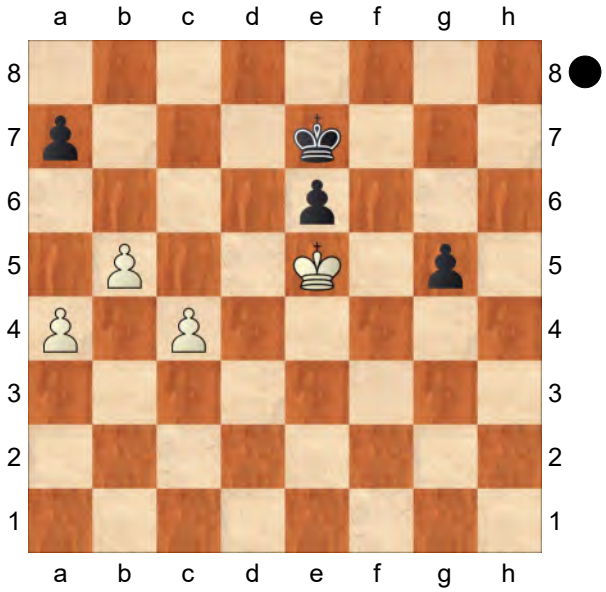
D02
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
■ **Stefansson,Hannes** **2471**
Olympiad-45 Budapest (2.3) 12.09.2024
[Kitty Kat]

D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4
Inf 103/(31) **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bf4N**
[3.Bg5 h6 4.Bxf6 Qxf6 5.e4 d6 6.Nc3 c6 7.Qd2 e5 8.0-0-0 Be7 9.Kb1 Nd7 10.h4 exd4 11.Nxd4 Ne5 12.f4 Ng4 13.h5 Hodgson,J (2535)-Polgar,Z (2520) Haifa 48/(78) 1989]
[3.c4 c5 4.Nc3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.a3 Nxd4 7.Qxd4 b6 8.Nb5 Ba6 9.Qe5 d6 10.Qg3 Qd7 11.e3 Rc8 12.Be2 d5 13.0-0 dxc4 14.a4 Ne4 15.Qg4 f5 16.Qh3 Qf7 17.Rd1 Bb4 Gubajdullin,A (2504)-Oleksienko,M (2590) 103/(31) Moscow 2008]
[3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.0-0 cxd4 *(5...a6 6.c4 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Qc7 8.Nc3 Be7 9.b3 0-0 10.Bb2 d6 11.Rc1 Nxd4 12.Qxd4 Bd7 13.Rfd1 Rfd8 14.Qe3 Be8 15.h3 Bf8 16.g4 h6 17.Qg3 Qe7 18.h4 Bc6 19.g5 Bxg2 20.Kxg2* Sundararajan,K (2446)-Aroshidze,L (2547) Sants 106/(180) 2008 *)* 6.Nxd4 Bc5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.c4 0-0 9.Nc3 Na5 10.Nxa5 Qxa5 11.Bd2 Qc7 12.Rc1 a6 13.Bf4 e5 14.Bg5 Rb8 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nd5 Qd8 17.c5 Bg5 Gonzalez Martin,P (2315)-11. ♗g2 f6 12.0-0 ♘c5 (1961) Taastrup 97/(200) 2006 (3) 1-0]
3...d5 4.e3 Bd6 5.Ne5 0-0 6.Bd3 c5 7.c3 b6 7...Qc7 is a critical line. 7...Dc7 ist die kritische Fortsetzung. **8.Nd2 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6** The position is equal. **10.h4!?** Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.

10...Qc7 11.h5 Ne4N 1.06/22
[Vorgänger: 11...h6 12.Rh3 cxd4 13.exd4 Nc5 14.Kf1 Nfe4 15.Nxe4 Nxe4 16.Qg4 Nf6 17.Qe2 Ne4 Erigaisi,A (2762)-Keymer,V (2726) Warsaw Superbet Blitz 2024 (7) ½-½]
[11...h6= 0.04/21]
12.Nxe4± dxe4 13.Qg4 cxd4 14.exd4→ White is out for blood.
14...Rae8 15.Rd1 0.24/21
[15.h6± 1.25/20 g6 16.Rh4]
15...Nc5 1.18/22 **16.Qg3** -0.28/22 White has more active pieces.
[White should play 16.h6± 1.18/22 g6 17.Qh4]
16...f6? 1.67/22
[16...Nb7!= -0.28/22 and Black is okay. 17.h6 g6]



This move loses the game for Black.
17.dxc5+- fxe5 18.cxb6 exf4 19.bxc7 fxg3 20.Rxd6 gxf2+ Endgame. KRR-KRR **21.Ke2** Strongly threatening Ra6. **21...Re7 22.Rc6 Rc8 23.Kxf2 Rcxc7 24.Rxc7 Rxc7** KR-KR **25.Ke3 Rd7 26.a4**
[Much less strong is 26.Kxe4 Rd2]
26...Rd3+ 2.71/24
[⌓26...Kf7 1.69/20 27.Kxe4 Rd2]
27.Kxe4 Rd2 28.b4 Rxg2 29.Rd1 aiming for Rd8+. **29...Rg3** 3.88/22
[29...g6 2.40/21 might work better. 30.hxg6 h5]
30.Rd3 Rxd3 10.24/24
[30...Rg4+ 3.81/20 31.Ke5 h6]
31.Kxd3 KP-KP **31...Kf7 32.Ke4 g5 33.hxg6+ hxg6 34.b5 Ke7 35.Ke5 g5 36.c4**



White wants to mate with a5. **36...Kd7 37.c5** a5 would kill now. **37...a5 38.bxa6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.83
1-0

B53
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2748**
■ **Vogel,Roven** **2521**
Karlsruhe Grenke op (6) 31.03.2024
[Daniel Fernandez]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Qe3 This queen retreat is not an especially critical try for an advantage, but in the early middlegame Black will need to find a constructive plan as

otherwise the position can slip away relatively quickly. **5...g6**

[For instance: 5...Nf6 6.h3 d5 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.Qb3 e6 9.Be2 Be7 10.c4 Nf6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Rd1 Qc7 13.Nc3 a6 14.Be3± and White was already very comfortable in Vaibhav,S-Williams,S Titled Tuesday 2020.]

6.h3 Bg7

[Years ago I had a game as White against the Serbian GM Zlatko Ilincic, which continued with 6...Bh6 7.Qc3 Qa5 8.Qxa5 Nxa5 9.Bxh6 Nxh6 10.Nc3 Nc6 11.0-0-0± and it seems for now that White is slightly better, but of course Black is so solid that a comparable degree of experience would have been necessary in order to even try and wear him down.]

[6...Nf6 7.Bc4 should be similar to the game.]

7.Bc4 Nf6 8.Nc3 0-0 9.0-0 Nd7 This knight tour ends up looking not especially purposeful.

[A more solid construction would be the Hedgehog-esque 9...a6 10.a4 b6 11.Qe2 Bb7 12.Bf4 Qc7 13.Rfe1 e6 14.Rad1 Ne5= of Benjamin,J-Gufeld,E New York op 1989, which Black later won.]

10.Rd1 Nb6

[10...b6!? as in 1-0 Aronian,L-Carlsen,M INT 2020 is best met by the transfer of the queen to h4: 11.Qf4 Bb7 12.Qh4 and this seems to be in some sense a fitting punishment for the departure of Black's king's knight from f6.]

11.Bb3 White has emerged from the opening with a slight advantage.

11...Be6

[11...Na5 12.Qg5 Nbc4 13.Qh4±]

12.Qf4 Bxb3 13.cxb3 e5 14.Qg3 Nd4?!

[Preferable was 14...f5!? 15.exf5 gxf5 16.Bh6 Rf7 17.Nb5± with a sharp position where White's better development makes some impact on proceedings. *(17.Nh4!?)*]

15.Be3! Probably Black didn't expect this move to be possible. **15...Nc2 16.Bg5 Qe8**

[16...f6 17.Rac1 Nd4 18.Be3±]

17.Rac1 Nd4 18.Be3 f5 19.exf5?!

[It was not all that hard to calculate the line 19.Nxd4 f4 20.Bxf4 exd4 21.Nb1! *(21.Bxd6* is also a bit better for White, but it's silly to go into this. *dxc3 22.Bxf8 cxb2 23.Bxg7 bxc1Q 24.Rxc1 Kxg7 25.Rc7+ Kg8 26.Qc3 Qf8 27.Rxb7→)* 21...Qxe4 22.Bxd6± when Black doesn't have enough compensation.]

19...Nxf5 20.Qg4 Rc8 Now White can play for static control again.

[Preferable was 20...Nxe3 21.fxe3 Bh6 22.Qe4 Qe6 intending ...Qf5, and White's control of the position is not as firm as they would like.]

21.Bxb6 axb6 22.Qe4 Rc6 23.Nd5 Bh6 24.Rc3 Qf7 25.Kh1 Kh8 26.a4 Bg7 27.b4 Nd4 28.Nxd4!? White makes a decision to cash in the positional dominance for an extra pawn.

[A move like 28.Rcd3 would have kept the status quo for a bit longer.]

28...Rxc3 29.bxc3 exd4 30.cxd4 Qxf2 31.b5 Bh6 32.Nxb6 Bf4 33.Qf3?!

[33.Nd5 Bg3 34.Rg1 Rc8 35.Ne3±]

33...Qc2?! Repaying the favour.

[Black is so active after 33...Bg3 34.Qxf2 Rxf2⩲ that White should be somewhat careful not to create losing chances.]

34.Qd3 Qc7 35.Nd5 Qf7 36.Qf3 Bg5 37.Rf1

[Even simpler looks to have been 37.Qxf7 Rxf7 38.a5+-]

37...Qxf3 38.Rxf3 Ra8 39.Nb6 Re8 40.Rf7 Be3 41.Rxb7 Bxd4 42.a5 h5 43.h4 Re1+ 44.Kh2 g5! An excellent practical try.

[44...Be5+ 45.g3 g5 is too slow, as White simply pushes. 46.a6 gxh4 47.a7]

45.g3? Maybe White is still winning after this, but it becomes a very close thing.

[It's not too late to blunder and lose the thread entirely: after 45.hxg5?? Be5+ 46.g3 h4 Black's counterplay comes with one tempo extra, and that's a huge difference in such positions. In fact White can't even hold here, despite the two extra pawns. 47.a6 hxg3+ 48.Kg2 Re2+ 49.Kh3 Rh2+ 50.Kg4 g2-+]

[The added complication of ...Bg1 ideas makes it harder to compute, but 45.a6 Bg1+ is not actually that threatening: 46.Kh3+-]

45...g4 46.Rd7 Re2+ 47.Kh1 Re1+ 48.Kg2 Re2+ 49.Kf1 Rf2+ 50.Ke1 Ra2

[Some truly last-ditch defending might have left Black with a chance to save the game: 50...Rb2! 51.Kd1 Rxb5 52.Rxd6 Bf2 53.Rd5 Rb3 54.Rxh5+ Kg7 and somehow, despite the two pawn deficit, Black is not a million miles away from the drawn RN v R endgame. 55.Rg5+ Kh6 56.Rxg4 Bxg3 57.Kc2 Rf3 58.a6 Bb8±]

51.Nc4 Bf2+ 52.Kd1 Bxg3 53.b6+- Bf4 54.b7 d5 55.Nd6 Rb2 56.Rd8+ Kh7 57.b8Q Rxb8 58.Rxb8 Bxd6 59.Rb7+

1-0

B85

□ **Rasulov,Vugar Ural Oglu 2560**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2712**

Qatar Masters op (3) 13.10.2023

[Kitty Kat]

B85: Sicilian Scheveningen: 6 Be2 a6, lines with early Be3

Zapata,A: 'Inf 47/(201)' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4**

[4.c3 dxc3 5.Nxc3 d6 6.Bc4 a6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Qe2 Nc6 9.Rd1 b5 10.Bb3 Ra7 11.Be3 Rd7 12.Na4 bxa4 13.Bxa4 Bb7 14.Rac1 Nb8 15.Ba7 Nf6 16.e5 Nd5 Alvarez,A-Zapata,A (2490) (ch) 47/(201) 1989]

4...Nc6 5.Nc3N

[5.g3 Qb6 *(5...a6 6.Bg2 Nf6 7.0-0 Qc7 8.b3 Bc5 9.Ne2 b5 10.Bb2 e5 11.a4 b4 12.Nd2 a5 13.Nc4 Ba6 14.Qd3 0-0 15.Rad1 d6 16.Qf3 Bxc4 17.bxc4 Rab8 18.Qb3 Qb6 19.Nc1 Bd4 20.Bxd4* 6.d4 ♘ge7 7.♗e3 ♘g6-Krstevska,M Norfolk-Devon 1903 0-1 *)* 6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nc3 a6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.a4 Ne5 12.Bf4 d6 13.a5 Bd7 B 44/01-N,N 2001]

5...Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Be2 Nf6 8.0-0 Be7 9.f4 d6 10.Qe1 Bd7 11.Qg3 0-0 12.Rae1 Nowadays more popular than 12.Kh1. Heutzutage beliebter als 12. Kh1. **12...b5** Threatens to win with ...b4. **13.a3 Rab8 14.Bd3** -0.41/19

[14.e5!± 0.33/20 Ne8 15.exd6 Bxd6 *(15...Nxd6 16.f5∓)* 16.Ne4]

14...b4 0.01/21

[14...Nxd4!∓ -0.41/19 15.Bxd4 b4]

15.axb4 -0.39/20

[15.Nxc6= 0.01/21 was preferrable. Qxc6 16.axb4]

15...Rxb4N 0.20/19

[Vorgänger: 15...Nxb4 16.e5 Nh5

17.Qh3! Nxd3 18.cxd3 g6 19.Rc1 -0.71/20 *(19.g4∓ -0.34/21* is more appropriate. *dxe5 20.fxe5)* 19...Qd8 0.55/22 *(19...dxe5∓ -0.71/20 20.Ne4 Qa5 21.fxe5 Qxe5)* 20.Ne4± Rxb2 1.58/21 *(20...d5± 0.68/20 21.Ng5 Bxg5 22.fxg5 Rxb2)* 21.exd6± Bf6 Hoping for ...e5. 22.Nxf6+ 0.01/20 *(22.Rc7± 1.30/19)* 22...Nxf6 Gazik,I (2435)-Orsag,M (2415) CSR-chT Czechoslovakia 1992 1-0]

[Better is 15...Nxb4∓ -0.39/20 16.Re2 Nxd3 17.cxd3 Kh8]

16.Nb3 -0.51/18

[16.Nxc6= 0.20/19 Qxc6 17.Bc1]

16...a5∓ 17.Ra1 -0.73/19

[17.Nb5∓ -0.31/18 Qb8 18.Nc3]

17...Rfb8 18.Qf3 g6 -0.01/19

[18...h6∓ -0.38/17 might be stronger.]

19.Kh1= Bf8 20.Bg1 -0.35/19

[20.h3= 0.01/18]

20...Bg7∓ 21.Ra3 Bf8 22.Raa1 Bg7 23.Ra3! e5 24.Be3 -0.91/20

[24.Nxa5!= -0.21/21 Bg4 *(24...Nxa5 25.fxe5 dxe5 26.Nd5=)* 25.Qf2 *(25.Nd5? Nxd5 26.Qxg4 Nf6-+)* 25...Nxa5 26.fxe5 dxe5 27.h3]

(Diagram)

24...a4 -0.30/21

[Black should try 24...Nd4!∓ -0.91/20 25.Qd1 Bg4]

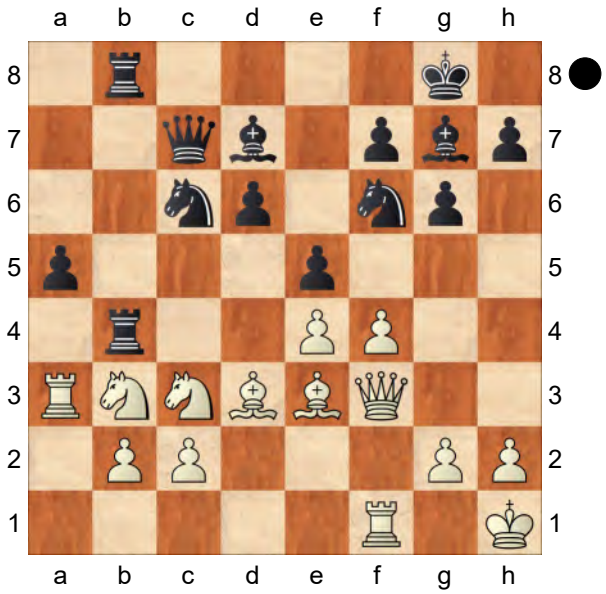
25.Nd2 -0.93/19

[25.Nxa4= -0.30/21 Nd4 26.Bxd4 exd4 *(26...Bxa4? 27.fxe5 Bxb3 28.Ba7+-)* 27.Rfa1]

25...exf4 26.Bxf4 Nd4

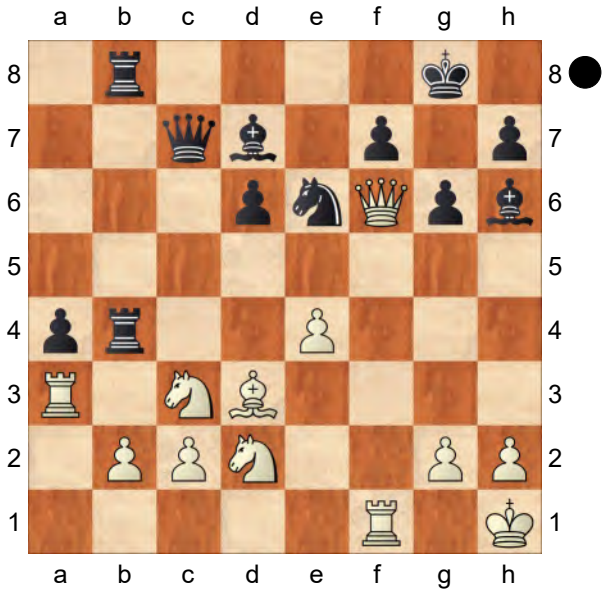
[26...Rxb2 27.Nc4 Nd4 28.Qd1±]

27.Qf2 Ne6 Against Bg5. Strongly threatening ...Ng4!



[27...Ng4? 28.Qg3+-]

28.Bh6? -2.13/21 **Bxh6-+ 29.Qxf6**



Bc6↑ Black is on the roll.

[29...Bxd2? 30.Qxf7+ *(30.Nd5 Qd8+-)* 30...Kh8 31.Qf6+ Kg8 32.Nd5+-]

[29...Rxb2? 30.Nd5 *(30.Nxa4? Bxa4 31.Rxa4 Bxd2-+; 30.Qxf7+ Kh8=)* 30...Qd8 31.Ne7++- *(31.Qxf7+ Kh8+-; 31.Qxf7+ Kh8+-)*]

30.Nc4 Bg7 31.Qf2 Nc5 32.Qf4 Rd8 -1.47/19

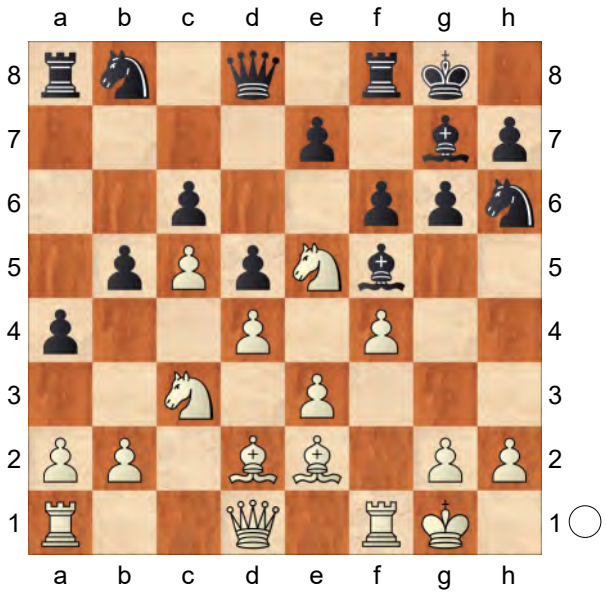
[Black should play 32...Qe7-+ -2.58/20

White must now prevent ...Qe6.
33.Na5 Ba8 *(33...Bxe4 34.Nxe4 Nxd3 35.cxd3±)*]
33.h3∓ Qe7 -0.99/20
[33...Qd7-+ -1.84/19 ...Re8 is the strong threat. 34.Qf3 Re8]
34.Na5 Ba8 Black is more active. A strong pair of Bishops.
[34...Bxe4 35.Bxe4 Rxe4 *(35...Nxe4? 36.Nc6+-)* 36.Nxe4 Qxe4 37.Qxf7+ Kh8 38.Qc7+-]
35.Bc4 Ne6 -0.94/21
[Not 35...Bxe4 36.Nxe4 *(36.Qxf7+ Qxf7 37.Bxf7+ Kh8∓; 36.Nc6 Bxc6 37.Bxf7+* Discovered Attack *Kh8∓)* 36...Rxc4 *(36...Qxe4 37.Qxe4 Nxe4 38.Bxf7+ Kh8 39.Nc6+-; 36...Nxe4? 37.Nc6+-)* 37.Nc6 *(37.Nxc4 Nxe4 38.Nd2 Nxd2±)* 37...Rxe4 *(37...Qxe4? 38.Qxf7+ Kh8 39.Nxd8+-)* 38.Nxe7+ Rxe7 39.Qg5±]
[35...Nxe4?! 36.Bxf7+ Kh8 37.Nd5 Bxd5 38.Bxd5=]
[⌓35...Rxb2 -1.33/21 36.Nxa4 Rxc2 37.Nxc5 dxc5]
36.Qd2 -1.44/21
[⌓36.Qf2 -0.94/21 Bd4 *(36...Rxb2 37.Nd5∓)* 37.Qe2]
36...Rxb2 37.Nxa4? -3.64/23
[37.Rxa4∓ -1.30/21 Rc8 38.Nd1]
37...d5!-+ Discovered Attack **38.Rd3?** -6.50/22
[38.exd5 -3.44/22 Qxa3 39.Nxb2 Qxb2 40.Qf2]
38...dxc4 Black is clearly winning.
39.Rxd8+ Nxd8
[39...Qxd8? 40.Qxd8+ Nxd8 41.Nxb2 Bxb2 42.Nxc4∓]
40.Nxb2 c3
Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/ Black=0.26 (precise)
0-1

D15
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
■ **Makarian,Rudik** **2548**
Qatar Masters op (6) 17.10.2023
[Kitty Kat]

D15: Slav Defence: 4 Nc3 a6 and gambit lines after 4 Nc3 dxc4
1.c4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 5.d4 Bf5 6.Qb3N
[6.Be2 h6 7.Bd3 Bxd3 8.Qxd3 e6 9.0-0 Bb4 10.Bd2 a5 11.a3 Bxc3 12.Bxc3 0-0 13.Rfc1 Nbd7 14.Be1 a4 15.Bb4 Re8 16.b3 Nb6 17.Nd2 e5 18.Bc5 e4 19.Qc3 Nbd7 20.Bd6 Nf8 4.♘f3 ♘bd7 5.♗g5 c6 359 (2540)-Ornolfsson,M (2706) Leningrad Chigorin Memorial Semifinal12 1951 (13) 0-1]
[6.Bd3 Bg6 7.0-0 e6 8.Qe2 Bb4 9.Bd2 Bxc3 10.Bxc3 0-0 11.a4 Nbd7 12.Bxg6 hxg6 13.b3 Ne4 14.Bb2 Qb6 15.a5 Qxb3 16.c5 e5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.dxe5 Qb5 19.Qc2 Qxc5 20.Qxc5 Nxc5 Kublis,A (2448)-5.dc5 ♗c5 6. ♗f4 44689 (2638) European Championship, Antalya 2004 (4) ½-½]
6...b5 is the new trend.ist der neue Trend. **7.c5 a5 8.Nh4 Bc8** White is slightly better. **9.f4! Ng8N**
[Vorgänger: 9...g6 10.Bd3 Nh5 11.Nf3 Bf5! 12.e4 -0.08/21 *(12.Qc2± 0.38/18)* 12...a4 13.Qc2 dxe4 14.Bxe4 Bxe4 15.Nxe4 Bg7 Gelfand,B (2703)-Grandelius,N (2655) Olympiad-43 Batumi 2018 (4.2) 0-1]
10.Nf3 a4 11.Qc2 g6 12.Ne5 0.32/20 White is more active.
[12.Bd3± 0.83/20]
12...Bg7 13.Bd2 Nh6 14.Be2 -0.01/19
[14.Bd3± 0.59/18]

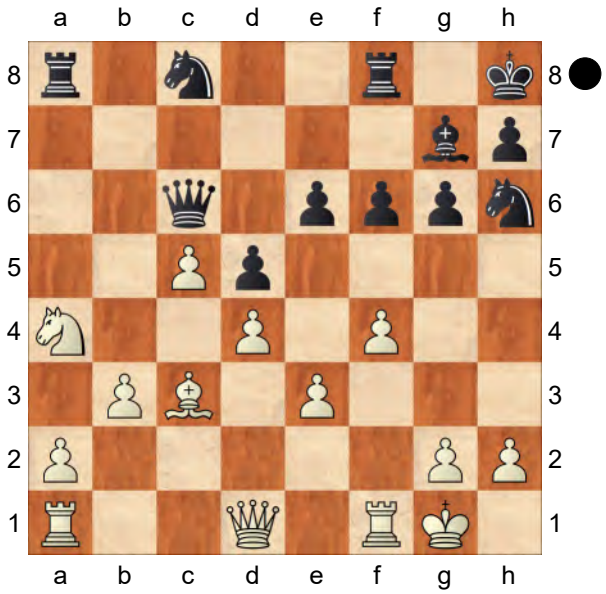
14...0-0 15.0-0 Bf5 16.Qd1 f6

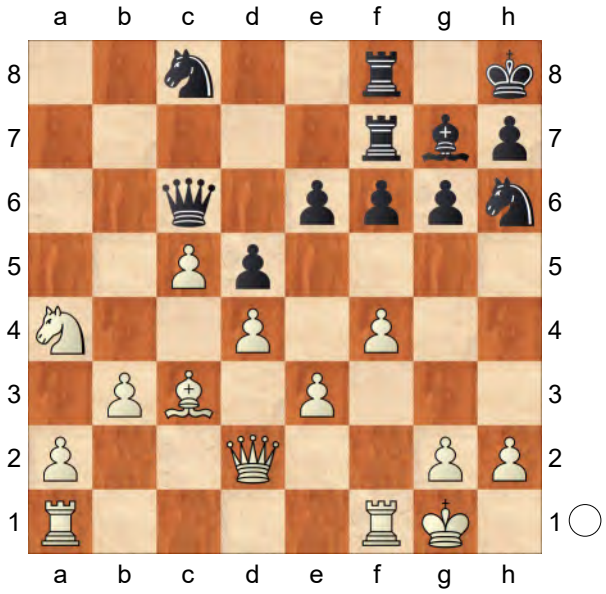


17.Nxc6 Nxc6 18.Bxb5 Bg4 0.53/20
[18...Na5= 0.03/18]
19.Qc1± Na7 Strongly threatening ... Nxb5.
[19...Bd7!?]
20.Bxa4 Kh8 21.Bb3 0.01/19
[21.b4± 0.67/18]
21...e6= 22.Na4 Nc8 Prevents Nb6
23.Bd1 -0.90/20
[23.h3= -0.23/17 Bf5 24.c6]
23...Bxd1∓ 24.Qxd1 Qd7 0.04/21
[24...e5!∓ -0.94/18]
25.b3 -0.54/20
[25.Nc3!= 0.04/21]
25...Qc6 0.62/20
[25...Re8∓ -0.54/20]
26.Bc3 -0.77/18
[26.Nc3!± 0.62/20 stays ahead.]

(Diagram)

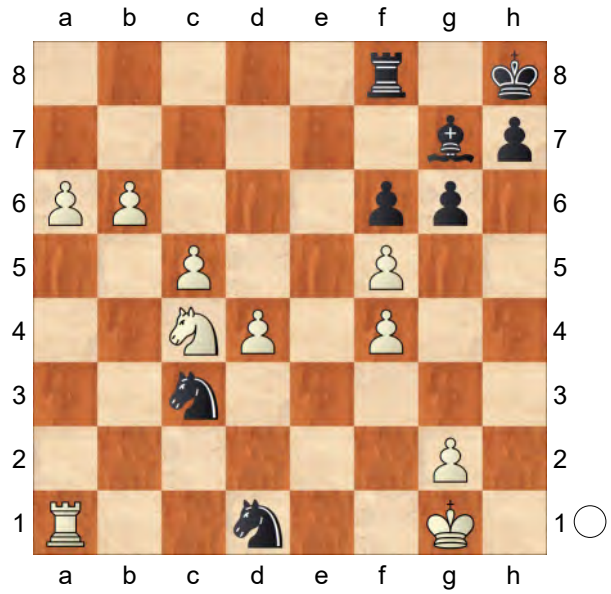
26...Ra7 -0.21/20
[Black should play 26...Nf5!∓ -0.77/18 27.Qd2 Qb7]
27.Qd2 Raf7 1.04/20
[27...Qa8= -0.20/19 remains equal.]





28.Nb2!± e5 1.57/21 **29.b4 exf4 30.exf4 Re7 31.a4** And now b5 would win. **31...Re4** 2.77/18
[31...Na7± 1.60/18 32.b5 Nxb5]
32.b5+- Qe6 33.Rfe1 Qf5 4.05/17
[33...Nf5 2.74/16 was necessary. 34.a5 Kg8]
34.Rxe4 dxe4 35.Nc4 Ne7 36.a5 Nd5 37.a6 White is clearly winning. **37...Ng4 38.h3 e3 39.hxg4 exd2 40.gxf5 Nxc3 41.b6**
[41.Nxd2 Nxb5 42.d5 Rc8+-]

41...d1N

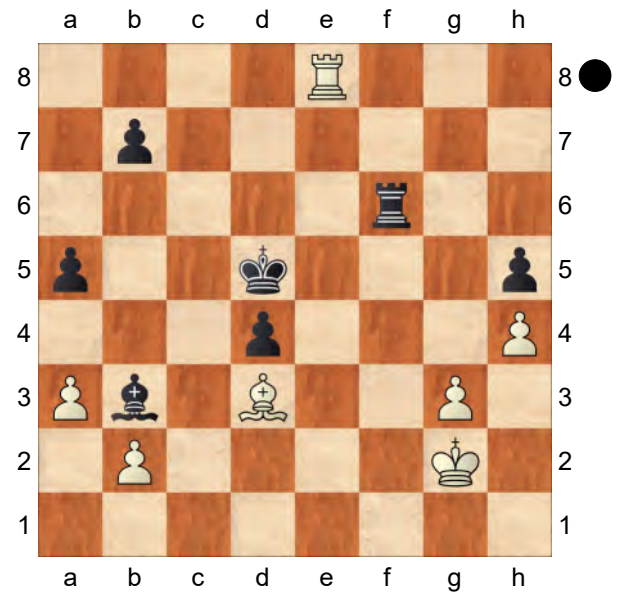


42.Rxd1! Promotion.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.54
1-0

C06

□ **Akhmedinov,Satbek** **2379**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
FIDE World Bl Team Final blitz (1.2)
[Kitty Kat]

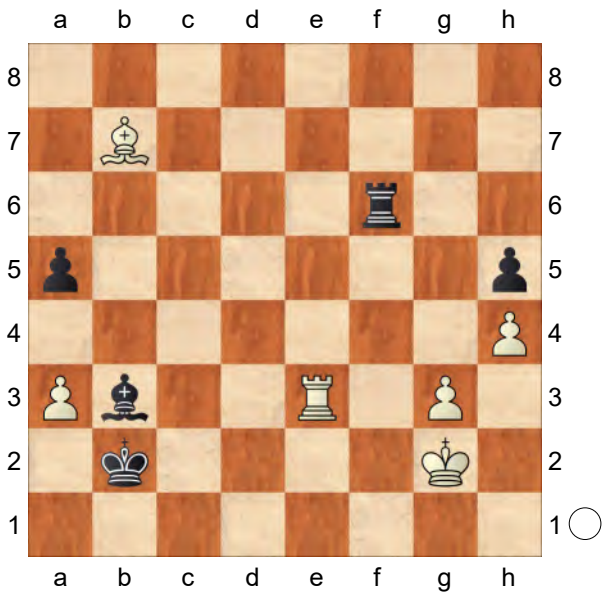
C06: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 main lines
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Nf3 0-0 12.Bf4 Bxf4 13.Nxf4 Ng4 14.Qd2 Qd6 0.92/22
[14...Qf6!± 0.45/21 is more appropriate. 15.Nh5 Qh6 16.Qxh6 Nxh6]
15.g3± e5
[15...Bd7 16.Ng5 g6 17.Rae1 Rae8 18.Nxh7 Rxf4 19.Bxg6 e5 20.Bxe8 Rxd4 21.Qg5+ Kxh7 22.Bxd7 Qxd7 23.f4 e4 24.f5 Qg7 25.Qh4+ Nh6 26.f6 Qf8 27.f7 Ne5 28.Rf5 Nexf7 29.Ref1 Kg8 30.Rf6 Christoffel,A (2500)-Comp Fritz 4 (2500) 46/(591) Linares 1988 1-0]
16.dxe5 Ngxe5 White is better.
17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Be2N 0.23/21 Repels Ne5-f3+
[18.Be4± 0.68/22 d4 19.Rad1 *(19.Rfd1 Bg4 20.Qxd4 Nf3+ 21.Bxf3 Qxd4 22.Rxd4 Bxf3 23.Rd3 Bc6 24.Rad1* 30. French 3...Nf6 − 11. Nf3-NN *)* 19...Bf5 20.Qe2 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 g5 22.Qd5+ Qxd5 23.Nxd5 Rad8 24.f4 Rxd5 25.fxe5 Rxf1+ 26.Kxf1 Kf7 27.Ke2 Rxe5+ 28.Kf3 Rf5+ 29.Ke2 Rb5 30.b3 Ra5 31.Rd2 Ke6 32.Kd3 Rd5 33.Re2+ Spiliadis,A (1888)-Kanakaris,G (2285) 60th ch-GRE Vrahati GRE 2010 (5) 0-1]
18...d4= 19.Rfd1 Rd8 20.Nd3
[20.Qc2 seems wilder. Rf8 21.Rac1 Bf5 22.Qc5]
20...Bh3 21.Rac1 Inhibits Qd6-c6.
21...Rac8 22.Rxc8 Bxc8 0.76/18
[22...Rxc8= 0.26/21 23.Nf4 Bd7]
23.Qf4 0.16/22
[23.Re1± 0.76/18 Threatens to win with Nd3xe5. Nc6 24.h4]
23...Nxd3 24.Qxd6
[24.Bxd3 Qxf4 25.gxf4 Kf7]
24...Rxd6 25.Bxd3 Endgame. KRB-KRB **25...Be6 26.a3 a5 27.f4 Kf7 28.Kf2**
[28.Bxh7? g6 29.Kf2 Kg7 30.Bxg6 Kxg6-+]
28...h6 29.Kf3 Kf6 30.Rd2 h5 31.Kg2 Bd5+ 32.Kf2 Bb3 33.h3 g5 34.fxg5+ Kxg5 35.h4+ Kf6 36.Kf3 Ke5! ...Rd6-f6+ is the strong threat. **37.Re2+ Kd5** ...Bb3-d1 would now be deadly.
38.Re8 Rf6+ 39.Kg2 -0.90/24
[39.Ke2= 0.01/27]



39...Bd1 -0.01/25
[Black should play 39...Ba4!∓ -0.90/24 40.Rd8+ Ke5]
40.Be4+ -1.10/25
[40.Ra8= -0.01/25 keeps the balance.]
40...Kc4∓ 41.Rc8+ Kb3 42.Bxb7? -3.25/24
[42.Rd8∓ -0.96/23 was worth a try. Bg4 *(42...Kxb2 43.Rxd4 Bb3 44.Bxb7=)* 43.Rxd4]
42...d3? 0.31/24
[Black should try 42...Kxb2-+ -3.25/24 43.Be4 a4 *(43...Kxa3 44.Rd8∓)*]
43.Rc3+± Kxb2 44.Rxd3 Bc2 0.66/24
[44...Bb3!= -0.01/25]
45.Re3 Bb3

(Diagram)

46.a4 Rb6 47.Bf3 Bxa4 48.Re5 0.20/22 White is more active.
[48.Bxh5± 0.63/22 is superior. Rd6 49.Re2+ Kc3 50.Re3+ Kb2 51.Kh2]
48...Bb5= 49.Bxh5 a4 50.Be8 Bxe8 The position is equal. **51.Rxe8** KR-KR
51...a3 52.Ra8 a2 53.h5 a1Q



[But not 53...a1B?! 54.Rf8±]
54.Rxa1 Kxa1 KR-KPP **55.Kf3 Kb2 56.g4** And now g4-g5 would win.
56...Kc3 57.g5 Kd4 58.Kf4 Black must now prevent h5-h6. **58...Kd5** Strongly threatening ...Kd5-e6.
[58...Rb1!? 59.Kf5□ Rb5+ 60.Kf6 Ke4=]
59.Kf5 Rb1 60.h6 Rf1+ 61.Kg6 Ke6 62.h7 Rh1
Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.24 (precise)
½-½

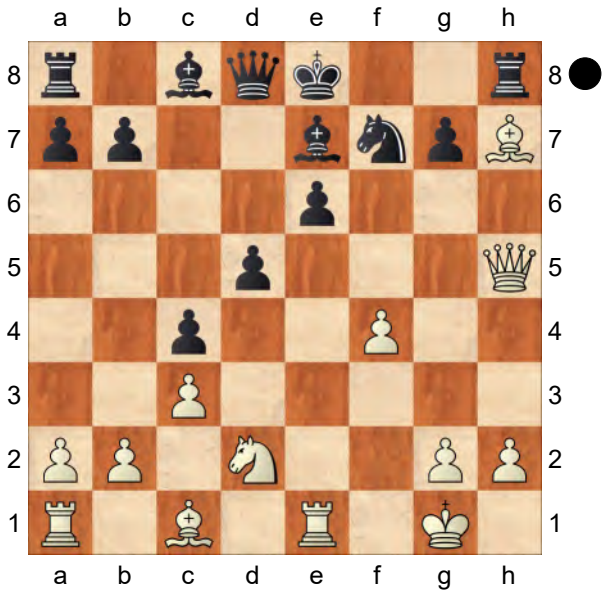
C06
□ **Kochavi,Ori** **2424**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2738**
ISR-chT Israel (6.13) 10.02.2024
[Kiddie Kat]

C06: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 main lines
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ngf3 f6! is currently scoring better than 7...Qb6. wohl besser als 7...Db6. **8.0-0** 0.17/22
[8.exf6± 0.59/23 Qxf6 9.0-0]

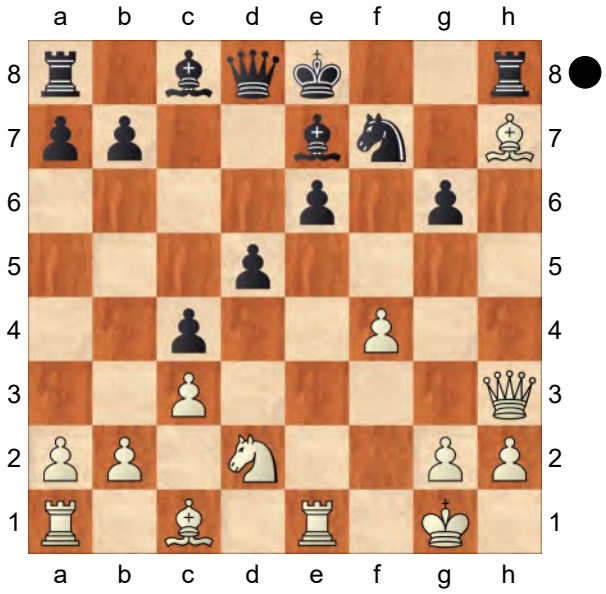
8...fxe5= 9.Nxe5 Ndxe5 10.dxe5
The position is equal. **10...Nxe5**
11.Qh5+ Nf7 12.Re1
[12.Bxh7? g6 13.Qxg6 *(13.Bxg6? Rxh5 14.Bxh5 Qh4-+)* 13...Qh4-+]
12...c4N
[Vorgänger: 12...g6 13.Bb5+ Ke7 14.Qh4+ g5 15.Qh5 a6 16.Ba4 b5 17.Bc2 h6 18.Nf3 Bg7 Daianu,C (2218)-Pavlov,D (2348) Titled Tuesday intern op 10th Nov blitz 2020 (6) 1-0]
[12...Bd6!?]
[12...Be7 13.Nf3 g6 14.Qg4 e5 15.Bb5+ Kf8 16.Qg3 e4 17.Ne5 Bh4 18.Nxf7 Kxf7 19.Qe3 Qd6 20.b3 Bf5 21.Ba3 Be7 22.Rad1 Qb6 23.Be2 Rad8 24.Bb2 h5 25.Bf1 Bf6 26.Qf4 Qd6 27.Qd2 Congiu,M (2259)-Touzane,O (2339) FRA-chT Top 12 2015 (6) 0-1 Kg7 28.Bc4 d4 29.cxd4 cxd4 30.Qa5 Qb6 31.Qa3 Rhe8 32.Bc1 e3 33.fxe3 dxe3 34.Be2 Bg4 35.Rxd8 Qxd8 36.Bxg4 hxg4 37.Bb2 Qd2 38.Bxf6+ Kxf6 39.Qc1 Qxc1 40.Rxc1 Rd8 41.Kf1 Ke5 42.Rc7 Wijks,W (2259)-11. ♗c4 ♘c6 12.0-0 b6_1807 (2339) 17/482 Las Palmas 1974 (6) 0-1]
13.Bc2 And now Nd2-f3! would win.
13...Bd6 14.f4 -0.10/24
[14.Qxd5? Bxh2+ 15.Kxh2 Qxd5-+]
[14.Kh1!± 0.56/22]
14...Be7 15.Bxh7? -3.01/23
[15.b3= -0.04/24 and White has nothing to worry.]

(Diagram)

White does not recover from this.
15...g6!-+ 16.Qh3



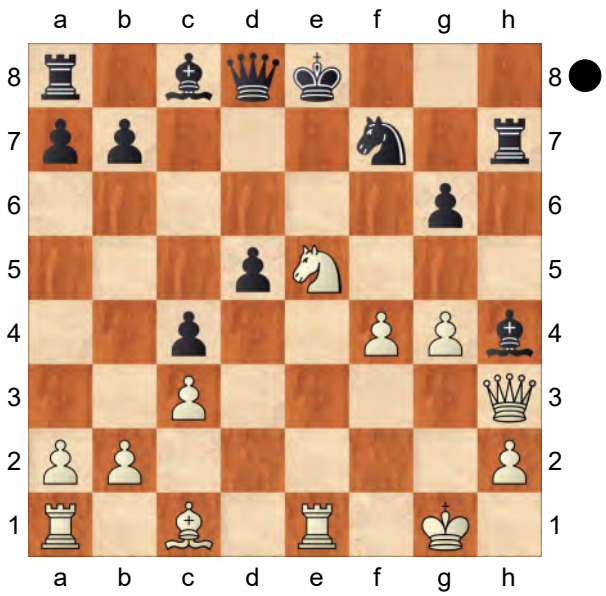
[16.Qxg6 Bc5+]



16...e5! Discovered Attack **17.g4**
[17.Qe3 Rxh7]
17...Bh4
[17...exf4 18.Nf3 Qb6+ 19.Kg2∓]
18.Nf3 Rxh7 19.Nxe5

(Diagram)

Bf2+! Discovered Attack **20.Kxf2 Rxh3 21.Nc6+ Kf8 22.Nxd8 Nxd8**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/



Black=0.10 (very precise)
0-1

D02

☐ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2748**
■ **Stelmaszyk,Nico** **2347**
Karlsruhe Grenke op (4) 30.03.2024
[Richard Palliser,Kitty Kat]

D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c3N

[3.e3 c6 *(3...c5 4.b3 Bg4 5.Be2 e6 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Bb2 Be7 8.Nbd2 0-0 9.c4 Rc8 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Rc1 Be7* D 04/01-N,N 2003*)* 4.Be2 Bg4 5.b3 Bxf3 6.Bxf3 e6 7.Bb2 Bd6 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.c4 Qe7 10.Nd2 0-0 11.Re1 Rad8 12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Bxe4 Nf6 15.Bd3 Ba3 16.Bc3 Bb4 17.Qd2 Bxc3 1.d4 d6/3. ♘f3 e4 4. ♘g5_41 (2303)-Van Heeren,A (1893) Prague International Open 2020 (3.37) 1-0]

[3.c4 c6 4.e3 e6 5.b3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.Bb2 b6 8.0-0 Bb7 9.Nbd2 0-0 10.Ne5 Qc7 11.f4 c5 12.Qe1 cxd4 13.exd4 Bb4 14.a3 Bxd2 15.Qxd2 Ne4 16.Qe3 f6 17.Rac1 Qd8 Savchenko,B (2569)-Caruana,F (2620) 102/(304) Plovdiv 2008]

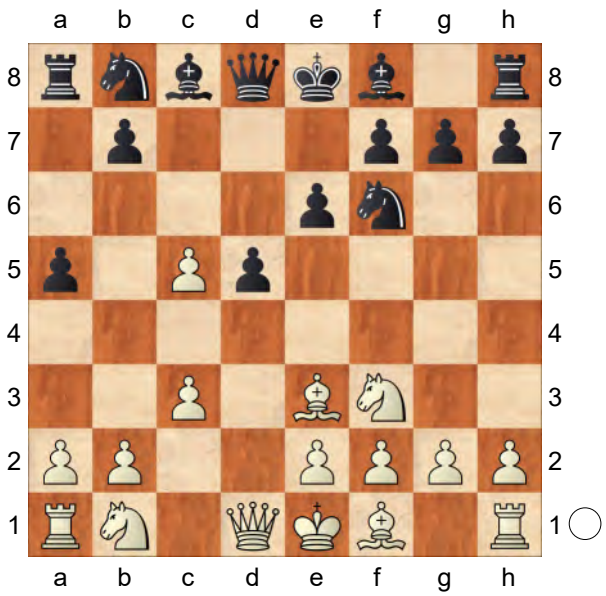
[3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 cxd4 5.Nxd4 e5 6.Nb3 Be6 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Bg5 Be7 9.Nc3 d4 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Ne4 Qb6 *(11...Bd5 12.e3 f5 13.Ned2 Bxg2 14.Kxg2* D 02/08-N,N 2003*)* 12.c3 f5 13.Ned2 0-0 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.e3 Nxb3 16.Nxb3 Bc4 17.Qf3 Bxf1 10.♗e2 ♗e6 11.0-0 (2426)-Bisguer,A (2278) Wichern op 5th 1999 (6.2) ½-½]

3...c5 4.dxc5 e6 5.Be3!? This was, of course, Ding Liren's weapon in the play-off to his world championship match.

5...a5

[There have also been developments after 5...Be7 6.g3 : 0-0 *(6...Nc6 7.Bg2 0-0 8.b4* was Ding Liren-Nepomniachtchi, 1st rapid play-off game, Astana 2023 - see the Archive*)* 7.Bg2 Ng4 *(*a related idea is *7...Nc6 8.b4 Ng4* , although after *9.Bd4 Qc7 10.h3 Nf6 11.0-0 e5 12.Be3 b6!? 13.cxb6 axb6* in Ter Sahakyan-Grischuk, Titled Tuesday Blitz 2023, Black likely wouldn't have had enough for the pawn after *14.a4!* and Na3 *)* 8.Bd4 Nc6 9.h3 Nf6 10.0-0 a5!? 0.37/18 *(10...Ne4=* 0.00/18 *)* 11.a4 -0.25/20 *(11.Qc2!?* with the idea of *Ne4 12.Rd1 Bxc5 13.Nbd2* is preferred by the engines, although I'd be surprised if White had anything after *Bxd4 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.cxd4 Nxd2 16.Qxd2 b6; 11.Qc2±* 0.37/18 *)* 11...Ne4 gave Black decent counterplay in Nihal-Sarana, Speedchess Challenge (blitz) 2023.]

(Diagram)



6.c4! Obtaining some central pressure before Black can get ...Nc6 in. **6...Nbd7**
[As we've noted before, 6...Na6 7.cxd5 Qxd5 8.Bd4 Black should prevent Nc3. Bxc5 9.Nc3 Qd8 10.e4 was a little better for White in Nihal-Abdusattorov, Kolkata (blitz) 2022,]
[and 6...Nc6 7.Nc3 Ng4?! 0.76/20 *(7...a4=* 0.11/18 *)* 8.Bg5± f6 9.cxd5! Bxc5 10.e3! also turned out well for White in R.Svane-Gavrilescu, Titled Tuesday Blitz 2024, and if exd5 11.Bf4 d4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.h3! Nxf2 14.Kxf2 Ne6 15.Bb5+ when White seizes a decent-sized initiative.]
7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Bd4 White is slightly better.
[The alternative was 8.Bg5 , but after Be7 9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.e4 Nb4 Black must be OK.]
8...Nxc5
[8...N5f6!? may appear a little retrograde, but is preferred by the engines and after 9.e3 Bxc5 10.Nc3 0-0 11.Bb5 b6 any nibble for White is likely to be a pretty small one.]
9.e3 Now White's development is quite smooth and attractive, with ideas of even Nbd2 then Ne5. **9...Ne4?!** 0.70/20
[9...Nf6 10.Nc3 Be7 11.Qc2!? 0-0 12.Rd1 feels like a definite edge for White, who may even go Ng5, but likely better this for Black than the game.]
[9...Bd7= 0.29/19]
10.Bb5+!?
[A new try. 10.Bd3 0.22/19 10.a3 0.81 Bb4+! 11.Ke2 Nef6 12.a3 Bd6 13.Nc3 Nxc3+ 14.Bxc3 0-0 hadn't seemed too bad for Black in Hakobyan-Bethke, Titled Tuesday Blitz 2022,]
[but White also has 10.Nc3! Ndxc3 *(10...Bb4?!* 1.07/20 10...Ndxc3 0.65 *11.Qc2* doesn't help Black*)* 11.bxc3 with a strong bishop and a definite edge after, for instance, Bc5 12.Ne5 .]
10...Bd7 11.Bxd7+ Simple chess, playing for an edge based on having the superior remaining bishop. **11...Qxd7**
12.0-0 f6 Inhibits Ne5.
[Fairly essential and certainly a much better method of closing the diagonal than 12...Nef6? 1.92/20 12...f6 0.63 13.Ne5 .]
13.Nbd2 Nxd2 14.Nxd2 -0.08/21
[Playing for the classic queen and knight team with 14.Qxd2 e5 15.Bc3 Nxc3 16.Qxc3 is preferred by the engines, but possibly Erigaisi wasn't sure that after Bb4 17.Qb3 Rfd1 would now be deadly. Qf7! 18.Qd3 Threatens to win with a3. 0-0 19.Rfd1 White had too much of an advantage.]
[14.Qxd2± 0.36/23 Bb4 15.Qd1]
14...Bb4 0.60/19
[White definitely has an edge after this, something which doesn't seem to be

the case following 14...e5! 15.e4!? -0.45/20 *(15.Bc3 Nxc3 16.bxc3 Be7* should be OK for Black*;* Better is *15.Bc3*= 0.06/21 *)* 15...exd4∓ 16.exd5 Qxd5 17.Rc1 when the engines indicate that White has enough for the pawn, but no more than that.]

[14...e5= -0.08/21 15.Bc3 Nxc3 16.bxc3 Rc8]

15.e4!± Ne7 16.Nc4↑ Activating the knight with a threat and now things quickly go downhill for the German FM. White is pushing. **16...Ra6** 1.69/21 This move loses the game for Black.

[The calm 16...Qc6! 17.Rc1 Rd8! would have been a much better defence, and if 18.Nxa5 Qb5 19.Nb3! e5 20.a3! 0-0 21.axb4 aiming for Qh5. Nc6 when White is seemingly only slightly for choice after 22.Qg4! .]

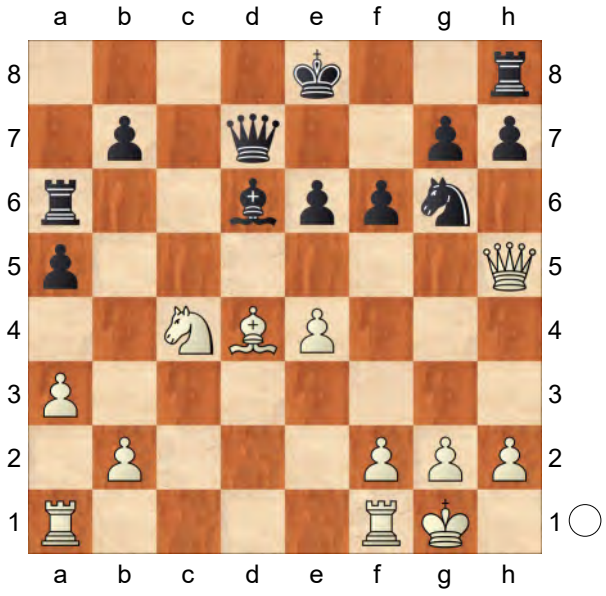
[16...Qc6!± 0.48/21]

17.a3!+- Bd6

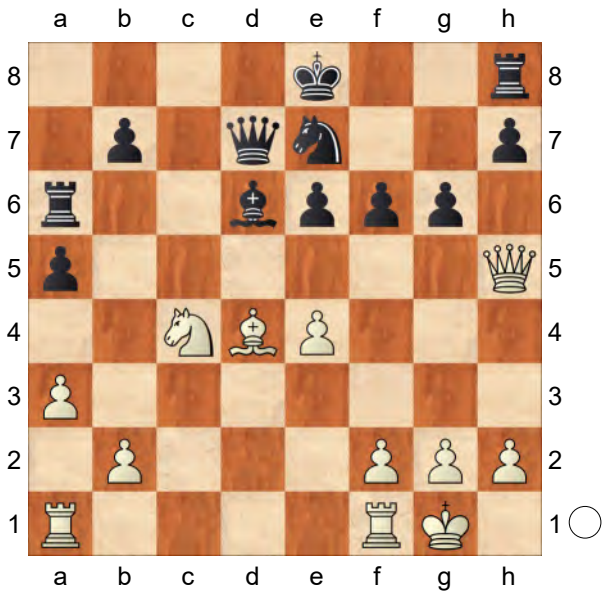
[What else to try with 17...e5? 4.91/21 17...Nc6 1.81 failing to 18.Bb6! ?]

18.Qh5+! g6

[Black is in even more trouble after 18...Ng6 2.43/21 18...g6 1.63



19.Rfd1! with the big threat of Bc5, and if Qc7? 4.31/23 Wards off Bc5 *(19...Qa4* 2.49/19 *)* 20.Qb5+! Kf7 21.Bb6 , winning material.]



19.Qh6

[Much less strong is 19.Qh4?! e5±]

19...Kf7 4.99/24

[19...e5 20.Nxd6+ Rxd6 21.Bc5 would have been grim, including after Ng8 22.Qe3 Rd3 23.Qc1 , but was also the last real try.]

[⌓19...e5 2.03/21]

20.Rad1

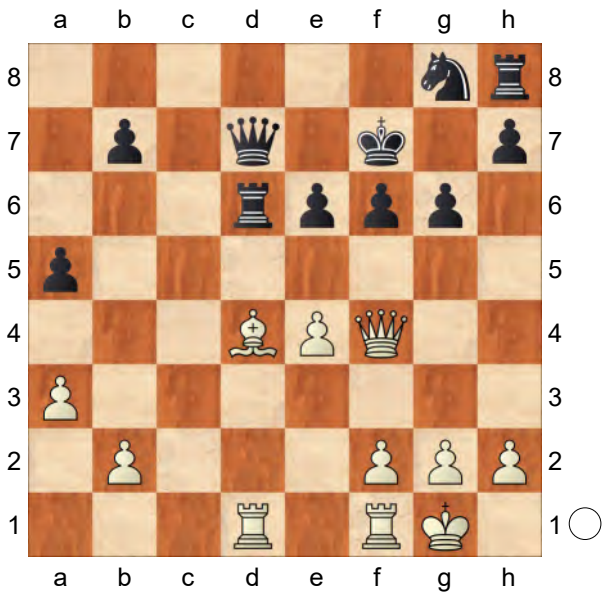
[Simple chess. The more flashy 20.Bxf6! Kxf6 21.Rad1 also wins.]

20...Ng8 21.Qe3 Qc7 22.Nxd6+ A well-timed exchange as Black's position begins to collapse on the dark squares. **22...Rxd6 23.Qf4 Qd7?** 8.71/22

[Losing on the spot, but Black would hardly have survived after 23...Rd7 24.Qxc7 Rxc7 25.Bb6 .]

[⌓23...Rd7 3.81/26 24.Be5 Qd8 25.Rxd7+ Qxd7]

(Diagram)

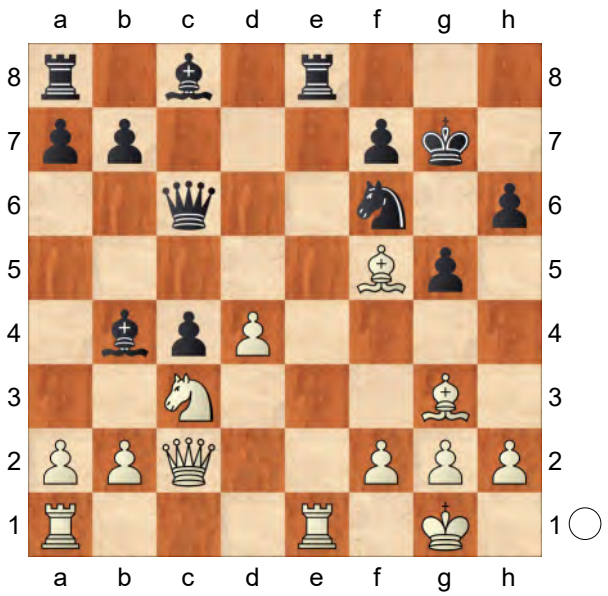


24.Bxf6! Black is weak on the dark squares. White is clearly winning.
24...Rxd1
[24...Nxf6 25.Rxd6]
25.Bd4+! Ke8 26.Rxd1 leaves the black position in ruins.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.47
[26.Bxh8? is a self mate. Rxf1+ Remove Defender, Back Rank 27.Kxf1 Qd1#]
1-0

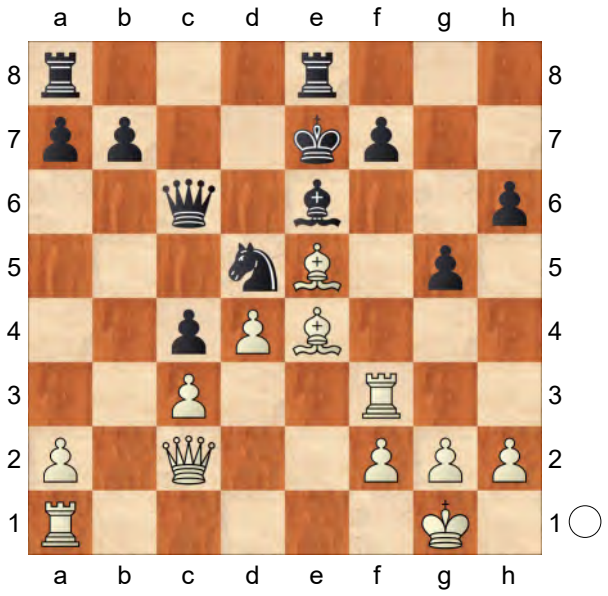
D38

□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2758**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
Tata Steel India blitz (6) 08.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

D38: Queen's Gambit Declined: Ragozin Defence (4 Nf3 Bb4)
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bg5 Bb4N
[6...c6 7.e3 h6 *(7...Be7 8.Bd3 h6 9.Bf4 Nh5 10.Be5 Nxe5 11.dxe5 g6 12.Qc2 Ng7 13.0-0-0 0-0 14.h4 Bg4 15.Kb1 Rc8 16.Ka1 Qc7 17.Ne2 Rfd8 18.Nh2 Bxe2 19.Bxe2 Qxe5 20.Ng4 Qe4 21.Nxh6+ Kf8 22.Bd3* Dunlap,H (2673)-5. ♘g5 e6 6. ♗d3 ♘gf6 442 (2627) WchT 3rd Luzern 1993 (2.3) 1-0*; 7...Bd6 8.Bd3 Nf8 9.Ne5 Ng6 10.f4 0-0 11.Qc2 Qe8 12.0-0 Bb4 13.Kh1 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Ne4 15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.Nxg6 hxg6 17.c4 f6 18.Bh4 b5 19.Rfc1 Bd7 20.a4 bxc4 21.Qxc4+ Qf7 22.Qc2 7...Kf8 (2449)-Duester,T (2425) Canakkale 61/(164) 1994 ½-½)* 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 Nh5 10.Bd3 Nxg3 11.hxg3 Bg7 12.Qc2 Qe7 13.0-0-0 Nb6 14.Kb1 Be6 15.Nd2 0-0-0 16.Nb3 Kb8 17.Rc1 h5 18.Nc5 h4 19.gxh4 gxh4 20.Ne2 Bc8 21.g3 Model Games-Game #1: Bu,X]
7.e3 c5 8.Bd3 Qa5 9.0-0 c4 10.Bf5 0-0 11.Qc2 Re8 12.Nd2 h6 13.Bh4 Qa6!? Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
14.Rfe1N
[Vorgänger: 14.a3 Bxc3 15.bxc3 Nh5 16.Rfe1 Ndf6 17.Bxc8 Raxc8 18.f3 Qe6 19.Bf2 Nh7 20.Rab1 Halliwell,T (2397)-Richter,W (2312) VW-Cup9 sf07 email 2018 ½-½]
14...Qc6 The position is equal.
[14...Nf8 simplifies 15.Bxf6 Bxc3 16.bxc3 Qxf6 17.Bxc8 Raxc8 18.a4 b6]
15.e4 Black must now prevent Nxd5.
15...dxe4 0.75/21
[15...Nf8± 0.39/20]
16.Ndxe4± aiming for Bxf6. **16...g5** 2.36/21
[16...Nh5± 0.95/20 was called for.]
17.Bg3+- Kg7 18.Nxf6? 1.00/23
[18.Rad1+- 2.58/19 has better winning chances.]
18...Nxf6±
(Diagram)



19.Be5! Hoping for Be4. **19...Bxc3 20.bxc3 Kf8** 2.02/20
[20...Bxf5± 1.30/22 21.Qxf5 Qe6]
21.Re3 1.19/21
[White should try 21.Rab1+- 2.02/20]
21...Nd5 22.Rf3 And now Bxc8 would win. **22...Be6** 4.11/20
[22...g4± 1.13/19 23.Rg3 Ke7 *(23...f6? 24.Bxg4 Bxg4 25.Rxg4+-)*]
23.Be4 This pair of bishops is nice.
23...Ke7



24.Rf6!! Pin **24...Rh8**
[24...h5 25.Re1]
25.Rb1 Kd7 6.09/22
[⌓25...b6 3.85/17 26.h3 b5]
26.Rxe6 Discovered Attack **26...fxe6**
27.Bxh8 2.07/19
[⌓27.Bxd5 4.69/22 Qxd5 28.Qa4+ *(28.Bxh8 Rxh8 29.Re1 b5+-)* 28...Ke7 29.Bxh8]
27...Rxh8+- 28.Bxd5 exd5 Endgame. KQR-KQR **29.Qf5+ Kd8 30.Qe5 Re8 31.Qb8+ Ke7 32.Qxb7+**
[32.Rxb7+? Kf6 33.g3 Rxb8-+]
32...Qxb7 33.Rxb7+ KR-KR **33...Kf6 34.Kf1** Repels Re1+
[34.Rxa7? Re1#]
34...Re6 1.72/24
[34...g4± 1.30/22 35.a4 *(35.Rxa7 Rb8±)* 35...Ra8]
35.Rxa7 1.18/24
[35.Rh7+- 1.72/24 Kf5 36.Rxa7]
35...Rb6± 36.Ke2 Rb2+ 37.Ke3 -0.01/23
[37.Kf3± 1.06/24]
37...Rc2= 38.Ra3 Kf5 39.h3 h5 40.Kf3 g4+ would now be deadly.
40...h4 0.59/28
[40...g4+= 0.01/27 41.Kg3 Ke4]
41.Ke3 -0.01/27
[41.g4+!± 0.59/28 hxg3 42.fxg3]
41...g4 42.hxg4+! Kxg4 43.Ra5 Rxc3+ 44.Ke2 Rc2+ 45.Ke3 Rc3+ 46.Ke2 Rc2+ 47.Ke1 Kf4 48.Rxd5 Ke4 49.Rh5 -5.77/27
[White has to play 49.Re5+!∓ -0.62/22 Kxd4 50.Rf5]
49...Kd3-+
[49...Rxa2 50.Rxh4+ Kd3 51.Rh3+ Kxd4 52.Rf3=]
50.f3 c3 51.Rxh4 Rxg2 -10.26/21
[⌓51...Re2+ -#14/21 52.Kf1 c2 *(52...Rxa2? 53.Rh8-+)* 53.Kg1 c1Q+ Discovered Attack *(53...c1B 54.Kh2±)* 54.Kh2 Qc7+ *(54...Rxa2 55.d5 Qg5 56.Rg4 Qe5+ 57.Kh3*

Ra1 58.Rb4 Rh1+ 59.Kg4 Qg7+ 60.Kf4 Qh6+ 61.Kg3 Qg5+ 62.Kf2 Qd2+ 63.Kg3 Qxb4 64.f4 Ke3 65.Kg4 Qxf4#) 55.Kh3 Re1 *(55...Rxa2 56.Re4 Ra1 57.Kg4 Rg1 58.Kf5 Qf7+ 59.Kg5 Rxg2+ 60.Rg4 Rh2 61.Rh4 Qg7+* Deflection *62.Kf5 Rxh4 63.d5 Rh6 64.d6 Rf6+ 65.Ke5 Qg5#)* 56.Kg4 Rg1 *(56...Kxd4 57.Kg5+ Kd3 58.Kf5 Qf7+ 59.Kg5 Qg7+ 60.Kf4 Qe5+ 61.Kg4 Rg1 62.Rh2 Qxh2 63.Kf5 Rxg2 64.f4 Qh5+ 65.Ke6 Rg6+ 66.Ke7 Qh7+ 67.Kf8 Rg8#)* 57.Kh5 Qg7 *(57...Rxg2 58.Rg4 Rh2+ 59.Kg5 Qg7+ 60.Kf5 Qf8+ 61.Ke5 Rh6 62.Rg6 Rxg6 63.f4 Qh8+* Skewer *64.Kf5 Qh5#)* 58.Rg4 Rh1+ 59.Rh4 Qh7+ *(59...Qxg2 60.Rxh1 Qxf3+ 61.Kg6 Qxh1 62.Kf6 Kxd4 63.a4 Qd5 64.a5 Ke4 65.Kg6 Qc6+ 66.Kf7 Kf5 67.Kg8 Qg6+ 68.Kh8 Kf6 69.a6 Qg7#)* 60.Kg5 Rxh4 *(60...Qxh4+ 61.Kf5 Qh7+ 62.Kg5 Qh6+ 63.Kg4 Qg6+ 64.Kf4 Rh5 65.g4 Qd6#)* 61.g4 Ke3 *(61...Kxd4 62.a4 Rh6 63.Kf4 Qc7+ 64.Kg5 Qg7+ 65.Kf5 Rf6#; 61...Qh6+ 62.Kf5 Qd6 63.a4 Ke3 64.Kg5 Rh6 65.Kf5 Qf6#)* 62.Kf6 Rh6+ *(62...Kxd4 63.Kg5 Rh6 64.Kf4 Qc7+ 65.Kg5 Qg7+ 66.Kf5 Rf6#)* 63.Ke5 Qh8+ Skewer 64.Kf5 Qf6#]

52.Rh8 c2

[Stronger than 52...Kxd4 53.Kd1=]

53.Rc8 Rg1+ 54.Kf2 Strongly threatening Rxc2. **54...c1Q** -4.43/5

[⌓54...c1R -#22/24 55.Rxc1 Rxc1 56.Kg3 Kxd4 57.Kf4 Rc7 58.Kg5 Rf7 59.Kg4 Ke3 60.Kg5 Rxf3 61.a4 Ke4 *(61...Rf1* is a self mate. *62.Kg6 Ke4 63.a5 Rf5 64.a6 Ra5 65.Kf7 Rxa6 66.Ke7 Kd5 67.Kf7 Ke5 68.Ke7 Ra7+ 69.Kd8 Kd6 70.Ke8 Rc7 71.Kf8 Ke6 72.Kg8 Kf6 73.Kh8 Kg6 74.Kg8 Rc8#)* 62.Kg6 Rf5 63.Kg7 Ke5 64.a5 Rf6 65.a6 Rxa6 66.Kf7 Ra5 67.Ke7 Ra7+ 68.Kd8 Kd6 69.Ke8 Rc7 70.Kf8 Ke6 71.Kg8 Kf6 72.Kh8 Kg6 73.Kg8 Rc8#]

55.Rxc1 Rxc1 56.d5 Kd4 57.d6 Ke5 What a bad dream for White.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.79/ Black=0.68

0-1

E20

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**

■ **Radjabov,Teimour** **2745**

Tata Steel India blitz (8) 08.09.2023

[Kitty Kat]

E20: Nimzo-Indian: 4 g3 and 4 f3

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Be7 6.e4 dxe4 7.fxe4 e4-e5 would now be deadly.7.a4 gains popularity.7.a4 wird beliebter. **7...c5 8.d5** has lost popularity (8.a4). verliert an Beliebtheit (8.a4). **8...exd5N** White has an edge. **9.exd5 0-0 10.Be2 a6 11.Nf3 h6 12.0-0 Bd6** Prevents Bc1-f4 **13.h3**

[13.Nh4 Re8 14.Nf5 Bxf5 15.Rxf5 Be5 16.Rxe5 Rxe5 17.Bf4 Re8 18.Qb3 b6 19.Bf3 Nbd7 20.d6 Rb8 21.Nd5 Nxd5 22.Bxd5 Nf6 23.Bc6 Re6 24.Qd1 b5 25.cxb5 axb5 26.a4 bxa4 27.Rxa4 Qb6 Jurtaev (1985)-Russian Variation,H (2207) Philadelphia Int 5th 1994 (4) 0-1]

13...Re8 Repels Bc1-e3 **14.Bd3 Nbd7**

[14...b5 keeps more tension. 15.cxb5 c4 16.Bxc4 Bxh3 17.Re1 axb5 18.Nxb5 Bc5+]

15.b3N

[15.a4 Nf8 16.b3 Bc7 17.Re1 Rxe1+ Firouzja,A (2785)-Nakamura,H (2775) Norway Chess Armageddon 11th rapid 2023 (6) 0-1 18.Qxe1 Qd6 19.Ne2 Qe7 20.Bf4 Bxf4 21.Nxf4 Qxe1+ 22.Rxe1 Bd7 23.a5 Re8 24.Rd1 Bc8 25.Ne2 N8d7 26.Nc3 Kf8 27.Kf2 Ke7 28.Re1+ Kd8 29.Na4 Rxe1 6.♘a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2689)-Marosi,G (2754) 28/101 Stary Smokovec 1979]

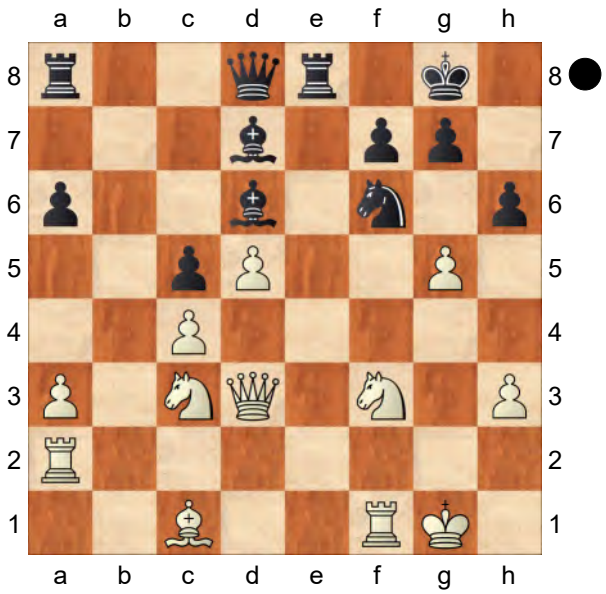
15...Ne5 16.Ra2 Nxd3 17.Qxd3 Bd7 18.g4 b5 19.g5 -1.12/23

[19.Rg2= -0.28/20 keeps the balance. Rb8 20.Nd2]

19...bxc4

[19...Nh5 feels hotter. 20.gxh6 Bf4 21.Rg2 Bxc1 22.Rxc1 Qf6]

20.bxc4



Bxh3 -0.34/19 This pair of bishops is nice.

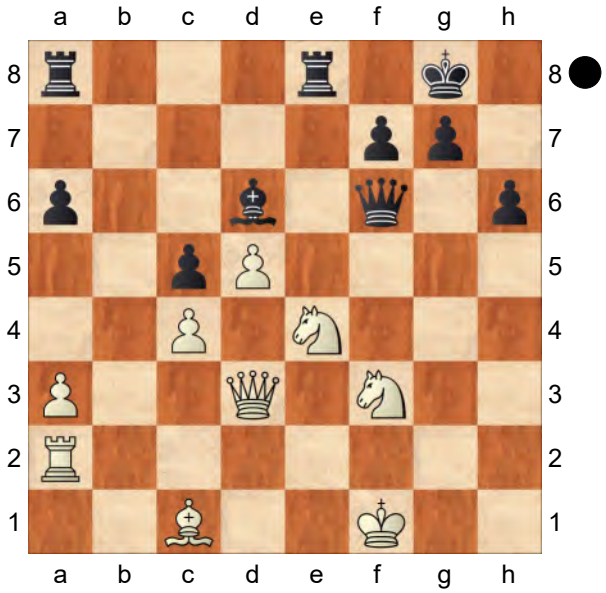
[20...Nh5!∓ -0.97/23 21.Rg2 Nf4 *(21...Bxh3 22.gxh6 Bxg2 23.Ng5∓)* 22.Bxf4 Bxf4 23.gxh6 Bxh6]

21.gxf6∓ Bxf1

[21...Qxf6!? 22.Rg2 Bxg2 23.Kxg2 Bf4±]

22.Kxf1 Qxf6 23.Ne4 -0.80/24

[23.Rf2= 0.00/25 remains equal. Bg3 24.Ne4]



23...Qf5!∓ Chess con chili. **24.Nf2 Qxd3+ 25.Nxd3 Re4** -0.23/21

[Black should try 25...Rab8∓ -0.87/21 Black wants to play ...g7-g5. 26.Re2 Rxe2 27.Kxe2 Re8+ 28.Kf2 Re4]

26.Rc2= Rb8 27.Nf2 Re7 0.44/19

[27...Ree8= -0.10/22]

28.Nh4!± Hoping for Nh4-f5. White has compensation. **28...Rbe8 29.Nd3** 0.10/23

[29.Nf5± 0.74/23 Re1+ 30.Kg2]

29...Re4!= The position is equal. **30.Nf5 Bf8 31.d6 g6 32.Nxh6+ Bxh6 33.Bxh6 Rd4 34.Nxc5 Rxd6** ...g6-g5! is the strong threat. **35.Bf4⇄** White puts up resistance **35...Rf6 36.Rf2 Rc6 37.Nd7 f6 38.Bc1 Ree6** White must now prevent ...Re6-d6! **39.Bb2 Rxc4 40.Nxf6+ Kf7 41.Nd5+ Ke8 42.Rh2 Kd7 43.Rd2 Kc6** Prevents Nd5-b6. **44.Nb4+ Kb5 45.Rd5+ Ka4 46.Nd3 Kb3 47.Bd4 Kxa3 48.Ra5+ Kb3!** Threatens to win with ...Re6-d6! **49.Nc5+ Kb4 50.Ra4+**

[50.Nxa6+ Kxa5 51.Nc5 Rc6

52.Nb7+ Ka6 53.Nc5+ R6xc5 *(53...R4xc5* gets mated. *54.Bxc5 Rxc5 55.Kf2 Rf5+ 56.Ke3 g5 57.Ke4 Rf8 58.Kd5 g4 59.Ke5 g3 60.Kd6 g2 61.Ke7 Rf2 62.Ke6 Kb5 63.Ke5 g1Q 64.Kd6 Qd1+ 65.Ke5 Kc5 66.Ke6 Qd6#)* 54.Bxc5 Rxc5 55.Kf2 Rc3 56.Kf1 g5 57.Kg1 Rc2 58.Kf1 Kb5 59.Ke1 Kc4 60.Kd1 Kd3 61.Ke1 Rb2 62.Kf1 Ke3 63.Kg1 Kf3 64.Kh1 Kg3 65.Kg1 Rb1#]

50...Kb5 51.Rxc4 Kxc4 52.Nxe6 Kd5 53.Nc7+ Kxd4 54.Nxa6

[54.Kf2!?]

54...Ke3 Vorgänger: **55.Kg2**

[55.Nc5!?]

55...Kf4 56.Nc5

[56.Kh3!? Kf3□ 57.Nc7=]

56...g5 57.Ne6+ Kf5 58.Nxg5

Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.09 (flawless) . Loss on time!?

0-1

B32

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
■ **Radjabov,Teimour** **2745**
Tata Steel IND Rapid Open (8) 07.09.23
[Roiz,M]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 The Kalashnikov is a rare guest at the top level, but it used to be Teimour's trusty weapon for years. **5.Nb5 d6 6.c4 Be7** The most common move. As usual, Black keeps in mind a possible ...Bg5 exchange.

[6...Be6 7.N1c3 *(* A solid alternative is *7.Bd3!?* Korobov,A (2658)-Stremavicius,T (2544) Vrnjacka Banja SRB 2023 [Roiz,M]*)* 7...a6 8.Na3 g6 yielded Black a memorable victory in Anand,V (2753)-Maghsoodloo,P (2676) chess.com INT 2020 [Roiz,M]]

7.N1c3 a6 8.Na3 f5 The most aggressive, but risky, choice.

[8...Nf6 was also successfully employed by GM Radjabov a long time ago: 9.Nc2 Be6 10.Be2 Rc8 Kramnik,V (2759)-Radjabov,T (2756) Baku (rapid) 2009 [Richard Palliser]]

9.exf5 Preventing the nasty ...f5-f4.

9...Bxf5 10.Bd3 Be6 11.Nc2

[Another common way is 11.0-0 Nf6 12.Nc2 0-0 *(12...d5!? 13.cxd5 Bxd5 14.Nxd5 Qxd5 15.Ne3 Qd7* might be acceptable for Black, although giving up the light-squared bishop isn't to everyone's taste.*)* 13.Ne3 *(*After *13.b3 Qd7 14.Bb2 Bd8* White can hope only for a tiny advantage. See the notes to Leitao,R (2567)-Nataf,I (2526) New Delhi IND 2000 [Fed]*)* 13...Nd4 *(*After *13...Qd7 14.Ned5 Bd8 15.Be3 Rc8 16.Rc1 Kh8 17.b3±* Black didn't have proper compensation for his structural drawbacks in Michiels, B - Potapov,P Khanty-Mansiysk 2010*)* 14.b3 Qd7 Black connects his rooks and vacates d8 for the bishop transfer. 15.Ne4 Rae8 16.Nxf6+ Bxf6 17.Be4± White has a slight, but stable plus. Catt,P - Legemaat,G ICCF email 2019]

11...Nf6 12.Bg5 White is interested in liquidating Nf6 to fix control of d5. However, this move isn't well-timed.

[12.Ne3 0-0 13.0-0 could transpose to a position from the above-mentioned note.]

12...0-0

[Seemingly, the energetic 12...e4! 13.Be2 d5 would have invited favorable simplifications and solve all

the issues: 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.cxd5 Bxc3+ 16.bxc3 Qxd5=]

13.0-0 Ng4 Again, the most common move. Teimour decides not to follow his own play,

[although after 13...Qd7 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Ne3 f5 16.Ned5 Bd8 Black obtained an excellent position and eventually won in Akopian,V - Radjabov,T Astrakhan 2010]

14.Bxe7 Qxe7 The exchange of bishops makes Black's play easier, though the Pd6 is still somewhat weak.

15.h3 A new move for our PGN Archive. It hardly offers White anything special.

[After 15.Ne3 Qh4 16.Nxg4 Bxg4 17.f3 *(17.Qd2!?* looks more promising.*)* 17...Be6 Black was solid in Dvoirys,S (2590)-Nataf,I (2504) Koszalin POL 1999 [Fed]]

15...Nf6 16.Qe2 A quiet choice. Arjun decides not to occupy the central squares so quickly.

[After 16.Nd5 Qf7 17.Nxf6+ gxf6 18.b3 f5 Black was close to equalizing in Majdan,J - Socko,M Ostrow Wielkopolski 2020]

16...Rae8 This innovation is a certain improvement

[over 16...Qf7 Ludwig,J - Gara,A Budapest 2017 Here White could have developed some activity with 17.f4! exf4 18.Rxf4±]

17.Rad1 Qf7?! Untypically for him, Teimour misses a great tactical opportunity!

[After 17...Bxh3! 18.gxh3 e4 White's bishop is trapped. A likely continuation is 19.Rfe1 exd3= with major simplifications.]

18.Ne4 Now White has slight, but long-lasting pressure. **18...Nxe4 19.Qxe4 g6 20.b3 Qc7**

[After 20...d5 21.cxd5 Bxd5 22.Qe3± Black fails to fully equalize because his Pe5 is weak.]

21.Qe3 Ne7 22.Qd2

[Another decent option was 22.Be4!? Bf5 23.Qd3± , vacating e3 for Nc2.]

22...Rd8 23.Ne3 Rf4

[23...d5 24.cxd5 Nxd5 25.Nxd5 Rxd5 26.Qe3±]

24.g3?! There was no reason for playing this committing move.

[More to the point was 24.f3 Qc5 25.Be4 b5 26.Kh2± Black is doomed to passive defense.]

24...Rff8 25.Kh2 Qc8 Now it is much tougher for White to make any progress because his heavy pieces are tied to defending f2. **26.h4 Qc6**

[26...Qc5!? , followed by Nc3-d4 looks good enough too.]

27.Qc2 Nf5

[The most convincing way to equalize was 27...d5! 28.cxd5 Qxc2 29.Bxc2 Nxd5 , but Radjabov's move isn't bad.]

28.Bxf5

[After 28.Be4 Nxe3 29.fxe3 Qc7 White has a tiny advantage, but Black's defensive task doesn't seem tough.]

28...Bxf5 29.Nxf5 Rxf5= The position is too simple now. Black has easy play along the f-file. **30.Rd5 Rdf8 31.Kg2 b5** A thematic break. **32.Qe4 bxc4 33.Qxc4 Qxc4 34.bxc4 Rc8** The simplest. **35.Rxd6 Rxc4 36.Rxa6 Rc2** Technically speaking, White is a pawn up. Of course, it has no value here. **37.Ra8+ Kg7 38.Ra7+ Kg8 39.a4 e4 40.Re7 Re2 41.Kg1 h5 42.Rc7 Ra2 43.Rc4 Re2 44.Rc7 Ra2 45.Ra7 Rf7 46.Rxf7**

½-½

B85

□ **Praggnanandhaa,R** **2727**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
Tata Steel IND Rapid Open (9) 07.09.23
[Roiz,M]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Be2!? Rameshbabu opts for a relatively rare line to confuse his opponent. However, later the game comes back to usual Scheveningen paths. **3...Nc6 4.0-0 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6**

[5...d5 6.exd5 Nxd5 is another common choice, but this position belongs to another section.]

6.d4 There is nothing else left. **6...cxd4 7.Nxd4 Qc7 8.Be3 Be7** Arjun prefers to test his young opponent in Scheveningen type positions.

[8...Bb4 is a common choice by Taimanov players, but recently Black faces some problems after 9.Na4 Be7 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Nb6 Rb8 12.Nxc8 Qxc8 13.Bd4 For instance, see my notes to Rizouk,A (2527)-Cruz,C (2554) Catalonia ESP 2014 [Roiz, M]]

9.f4 d6 10.a4 0-0 11.Kh1 Bd7 The only drawback of this natural developing move is blocking d7, as Black sometimes needs it for his knight, especially in case White goes for an aggressive g2-g4-g5 push.

[11...Re8 is by far the most common move, when some theoretical lines are explored till move 30-40. Those positions became very popular after the 1st Karpov - Kasparov match.]

12.Nb3 Na5?! A risky move that was tried by many strong players, including Nakamura and Volokitin. Black is happy with possible damage to his pawn chain after Nxa5, but it also diminishes control of e5.

[12...b6 is the only move that we saw on our site, a long time ago: 13.g4 1/2 (43) Dolmatov,S (2587)-Jakovenko,D (2521) Elista RUS 2001 [John Fedorowicz] *(13.Bf3!? Rae8* Black tried many other moves, but this one looks the most flexible because Black can play ..Bc8 without disconnecting his rooks. *14.g4 Bc8 15.g5 Nd7 16.Bg2* later led to a standard complex struggle in Aravindh,C - Sandipan,C Caleta 2016*)* In my opinion, the energetic 13...d5! would have offered Black sufficient counterplay. For instance, 14.e5 Ne4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.c3 Rfd8 17.Qe1 Na5! , and then 18.Na5 bxa5 is good because it will make b2 very vulnerable. In fact, Black scored 2.5/4 in this position.]

13.e5! Ne8

[After 13...dxe5 14.fxe5 Nd5 15.Nxd5 exd5 16.Nxa5 Qxa5 17.c3± White had both more active pieces and a superior pawn structure in Barria Zuniga,D - Gatica Miranda, J Santiago de Chile 1994]

14.Nxa5 Qxa5 15.Ne4 Black's main issue is the poor Ne8. It will be hard to improve it and connect the rooks. **15...Qc7**

[After 15...d5 16.Ng5 g6 17.c3 Ng7 18.Nf3± Black has an awful setup a-la French, where his king is exposed and his minor pieces have no good prospects.]

16.a5! White grabs more space and secures b6 for his bishop. **16...Bc6**

[Hardly better is 16...Rc8 17.c4 Bc6 18.Bb6 Qd7 19.Qc2 f5 This position occurred in Kraemer,M - Volokitin,A Germany 2014 Now the strong 20.Nc5! dxc5 21.Rad1 Nd6 22.exd6

would have put Black in a critical situation because of the strong Pd6.]

17.Bb6 Qd7 18.Bf3

[Possibly even more unpleasant for Black would be 18.Qd4!? dxe5 19.Qxd7 Bxd7 20.fxe5± The Ne8 is stuck and Black struggles to involve his rook as well.]

18...Rc8 19.Rf2 This move is aimed to increase pressure on d6. **19...Bd5?** This innovation doesn't really make Black's position more attractive.

[19...f5?! was seen in Madan,A - Ali,G Liverpool 2007 Here the simple 20.Nxd6 Bxf3 21.gxf3 Nxd6 22.Rd2 would have put Black on the verge of collapse.]

[In my opinion, the best attempt to liberate the poor Ne8 was 19...dxe5! 20.Rd2 *(*Also after *20.Qxd7 Bxd7 21.fxe5 Bc6 22.Rd1 f5!* Black has good chances for a successful defence. *)* 20...Bd5 21.fxe5 Qc6± The issues with Ne8 are still real, but the other pieces are well placed now, and Black can consider counter-attacking measures with ...f7-f6.]

20.b3! A strong response. White declares his intention to drive his opponent's bishop away with c2-c4.

20...dxe5? This loses on the spot, although Black's task was already very tough.

[For instance, after 20...Qc6 21.Ra4 Bd8 22.Rc4 Qd7 23.Rxc8 Qxc8 24.Qd4!±]

[or 20...f5 21.Nxd6 Bxd6 22.c4 Bxf3 23.gxf3 Qc6 24.exd6 Nxd6 25.Rd2± Black's rooks are paralyzed by the strong Bb6.]

21.c4! f5

[21...Bc6 22.Rd2+-]

22.cxd5 fxe4 23.Bg4+- Black's poor piece coordination is especially clear now. **23...Nc7 24.Bxc7 Qxc7 25.Bxe6+ Kh8 26.Bxc8 Rxc8 27.Rf1**

[Simpler is 27.Re2 exf4 28.Rxe4+-]

27...Rd8 28.Rc1 Qd6 29.Qe2 Qxd5

[29...exf4 30.Qxe4 g5 31.Rfe1 is hopeless, too.]

30.Rfd1 Qxa5 31.Rxd8+ Qxd8 32.Qxe4 The rest is just agony. **32...Ba3 33.Re1 Qg8 34.Qa4 Bb2 35.fxe5 Bc3 36.Re3 Qf8 37.Qc4 b5 38.Rf3 Qd8 39.Qd3**

1-0

D37

□ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi 2716**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2712**

Tata Steel IND Blitz Open (14.2) 09.09.23

[IM Valderrama]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nbd7

[4...dxc4

A) 5.e3 a6 6.a4 c5 7.Bxc4 Nc6 8.0-0 Be7 9.Qe2 cxd4 10.Rd1 e5 *(10...0-0 11.exd4* â-â Dubov,D (2714)-So,W (2770) Goldmoney Asian Prelim rapid 2021 (6.4) Once again a typical isolated pawn position with the possible plans that are used here for both sides. The d5 square plays a fundamental role in the blocking strategy and the possibility of White's d4-d5 advance. *)* 11.exd4 exd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 [Yue, W- Shanglei, L CHN-cht 2018. Check the game. 13.Qe5 0-0 14.Rxd4 Qb6 A somewhat complex position, but it is not far from equality.;

B) 5.e4 Bb4 6.e5 this seems like a normal move but it is an error as

has been previously analyzed in similar positions due to the c-pawn defense options. Nd5 7.Bd2 Nb6 8.Be2 Nc6 9.Ne4 a5 10.a3 Be7 11.Bc3 Qd5 12.Qc2 Bd7 13.0-0 Nb8 Black has a satisfactory position.]

5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bg5 Bb4 7.e3 c5 Putting pressure on the center and enabling the a5 square for the queen. **8.Bd3 Qa5 9.Qc2**

[9.0-0 cxd4? *(9...c4* a logical sequence, it makes much more sense to keep the center closed. *10.Bc2 Bxc3 11.bxc3 Qxc3* I extend a special invitation to the reader to immerse themselves in a double-edged attacking game led by the Hungarian GM Banusz Tamas with the white pieces. [Tamas, B - Ante, B Zagreb Open 2011. Check the game. *)* 10.exd4 Bxc3?? This would go against the concepts and fundamentals, the black king is quite exposed so 10...Bxc3 would be a serious error due to Qe2+ and the pawn does not compensate having the king in the center. 11.Qe2+ Ne4 12.Bxe4 0-0 13.Bc2 Bxb2 14.Rab1 Ba3 15.Rb3 Bd6 16.Nh4 g6 17.Nf5! gxf5 18.Bxf5+- The pieces do not get to the defense in time.]

9...c4 10.Bf5 0-0 11.0-0 Re8 0-1 Svidler,P (2750)-Kramnik,V (2790) Amber-rapid 19th 2010 (9) **12.Nd2** a logical move, preventing the knight's future jumps to e4. **12...h6 13.Bh4 Qa6 14.Rfb1** White must break the d5-c4 pawn chain to justify the knight on d2 and the rook on b1. **14...Qc6**

[14...g5 15.Bg3 Nf8 was an interesting option, seeking to eliminate the most active white piece. Unlike ...g5 in the Grischuck-Vachier game, Black is now well prepared for that advance and with the possibility of activating the queen via e6. 16.a4 Bxf5 17.Qxf5 Qe6 18.Qxe6 fxe6 19.Nf3 a5 20.Ne5 Kg7 21.h4 Ng6 22.hxg5 hxg5 23.f3= The position is balanced, but from a human point of view it may be easier to play with the black pieces.]

15.a4 b6 16.b3 cxb3

[16...g5 17.Bg3 Nc5! Taking advantage of the tactic involving the queen's overload. 18.dxc5?? *(18.Bxc8 Bxc3 19.Qxc3 Nce4* Intermedia! *20.Nxe4 Nxe4 21.Qc2 Raxc8∓* With a more than satisfactory position for Arjun, the knight on e4 is very strong and the pawn on c4 could be a major threat in the endgame.*)* 18...Bxf5 19.Qxf5 Bxc3 20.Ra2 bxc5 21.bxc4 d4 22.exd4 cxd4-+ White cannot coordinate, there are too many weaknesses in the position.]

17.Rxb3 a5 18.Rc1 Ba6 19.Qd1 Qb7

[19...Rac8 20.Bxf6 gxf6?? *(20...Nxf6 21.Bxc8 Rxc8+-; 20...Qxf6 21.Bxd7)* 21.Qg4+ Kh8 22.Bxd7]

20.Na2 Bxd2 21.Qxd2 Bc4 22.Rb2 Ne4 23.Qd1?!

[23.Bxe4 Rxe4 24.Bg3 Rc8 25.Nc3 Re6 26.h3= He had to enter this ending of opposing bishops, objectively the position is equal.]

23...Nd6 24.Bb1 Ne4 25.Nc3

[25.f3! is typical in these positions, it seems to leave a very weak point on e3 but the bishop on h4 will defend this well. It is important to dislodge that knight and White would even maintain chances of attacking on the kingside.]

25...Nxc3 26.Rxc3 Rac8 27.h3 Rc6 28.Bf5 Nf8 29.Qc2 Ne6 30.Qb1 Rec8 31.Rbc2 g6 32.Bxe6 Rxe6 33.Bg3 Qd7 34.Qa1 Rec6 35.Rc1 Bb3 36.Rxc6 Rxc6 37.Rxc6 Qxc6 38.Qa3 Looking for activity, there are also mating threats against the black king, Arjun must be somewhat careful. **38...Bxa4 39.Qe7 Qd7 40.Qf6 Qe6 41.Qd8+ Be8 42.Bc7 a4 43.Bxb6 Qd7**

[43...a3 44.Bc5 a2 45.Qa5=]

44.Qa8 Qc6 45.Qa7 a3 46.Bc5 Qa4 47.Qxa4 Bxa4 48.Bxa3 h5 49.Kh2 Bb5 50.Kg3 Bf1 51.f3 f5 52.Kf2 Bc4 53.Bd6 Kf7 54.Be5 Bb5 55.h4 Bc4 56.Bf4 Bb5 57.Bg5 Bc4 58.Kg3 Bf1 59.Kf2 Bc4 60.Kg3

½-½

A07

□ **Praggnanandhaa,Rameshbabu 2690**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2710**

FIDE World Cup (6.9) 17.08.2023

[Praggnanandhaa,Rameshbabu]

This match almost had fight for the candidate spot, with so much at stake, playing my good friend Arjun was not easy!

I lost the first game with white and had to win on demand with Black to force the tiebreak, which I managed to do!

The rapid tiebreak started with two draws and we went into 10+10 and 5+3 where I won the first games with white. But Arjun made an incredible comeback twice in a row, at the end it all came down to a sudden death blitz game.

In dieser Partie wurde fast um den Kandidatenplatz gekämpft, und da so viel auf dem Spiel stand, war es nicht einfach, gegen meinen guten Freund Arjun zu spielen!

Ich verlor die erste Partie mit Weiß und musste mit Schwarz auf Bestellung gewinnen, um den Tiebreak zu erzwingen, was mir auch gelang!

Der Rapid-Tiebreak begann mit zwei Remis, und wir gingen in 10+10 und 5+3 über, wo ich die ersten Partien mit Weiß gewann, aber Arjun gelang zweimal hintereinander ein unglaubliches Comeback, und am Ende lief alles auf eine Blitzpartie mit Sudden Death hinaus. **1.Nf3!?** Made this move after losing 30sec of 3+2 game! A funny incident, during the break before this game I looked at the big screen to see countdown and to my eyes I somehow saw 5:00 mins to start for the game but in fact it said 0.50 secs to go! I went to restroom, washed my face and while coming back to the hall, I saw arbiters running towards me, and later I found the game had already started - I had lost 30 secs! Ich machte diesen Zug, nachdem ich 30 Sekunden der 3+2-Partie verloren hatte! Eine lustige Begebenheit: Während der Pause vor der Partie schaute ich auf den großen Bildschirm, um den Countdown zu sehen, und in meinen Augen sah ich irgendwie 5:00 Minuten bis zum Spielbeginn, aber in Wirklichkeit hieß es 0,50 Sekunden bis zum Beginn! Ich ging auf die Toilette, wusch mir das Gesicht und als ich in die Halle zurückkam, sah ich die Schiedsrichter auf mich zurennenm und später stellte ich fest, dass die Partie bereits begonnen hatte - ich hatte 30 Sekunden verloren! **1...Nf6 2.b3** I wanted to play something where I can just play by hand !Ich wollte etwas spielen, was einfach leicht von der Hand

geht! **2...d5 3.Bb2 Bf5 4.g3 e6 5.Bg2 Be7 6.d3 h6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nbd2 a5 9.a3** The main line 9.a3 scores better than 9.a4 .Die Hauptvariante 9.a3 punktet besser als 9.a4. **9...Bh7 10.Ne5!?**

[10.c4 c6 This is the mainline. Dies ist die Hauptvariante.]

10...Nbd7 11.Nxd7 Qxd7 12.Nf3N

[Vorgänger: 12.e4 Rfd8 13.e5 Ne8 14.a4 c6 15.Qe2 Nc7 16.h4 Na6 17.Rfd1 Nb4 18.Nf1 Nakamura,H (2736)-Giri,A (2774) Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz 2021 (2.15) 1-0]

12...c5 13.c4 a4?! Arjun goes for direct play and which may give white a target. Arjun entscheidet sich für direktes Spiel, was Weiß ein Ziel geben könnte.

[13...Rfd8]

14.Ne5 Qc7 15.cxd5 exd5 16.bxa4 Qa5?! White play gets bit easier especially considering its a blitz game! Das weiße Spiel wird etwas einfacher, vor allem wenn man bedenkt, dass es eine Blitzpartie ist!

[16...Rfd8= Black is fine. Schwarz steht gut.]

17.Qb3!± Qxa4 18.Bxd5 Nxd5 19.Qxd5 Qa6?!

[19...Rad8! 20.Qc4 Qxc4 21.Nxc4 b5 Not easy to assess in a blitz game, Black has decent compensation for the pawn. In einer Blitzpartie nicht leicht zu beurteilen, Schwarz hat eine gute Kompensation für den Bauern. 22.Ne3 Ra8± White is better but probably holdable with accurate play. Weiß steht besser, aber bei genauem Spiel wahrscheinlich zu halten.]

20.a4!± A nice move, preventing b5 ideas. Ein schöner Zug, der b5-Ideen verhindert. **20...Rad8**

[20...Bf5± Black has to get the bishop to a8-h1 diagonal faster. As we see the game this turned out to be big problem for black.Schwarz muss den Läufer schneller auf die Diagonale a8-h1 bringen. Wie wir in der Partie sehen, stellte sich dies als großes Problem für Schwarz heraus.]

21.Qf3! Stopping Bf5 .Stoppt Lf5. **21...Bf6 22.Nc4 Bxb2 23.Nxb2 Rfe8 24.Nc4?!** Allowing a nice tactic for black! Erlaubt eine schöne Taktik für Schwarz!

24...Qe6?!

[24...Be4! Getting the bishop to a8-h1 diagonal, which gives lot of counterplay for black.Bringt den Läufer auf die Diagonale a8-h1, was viel Gegenspiel für Schwarz ergibt.]

25.Ne3?!

[25.Rfe1!+-]

25...b6?!

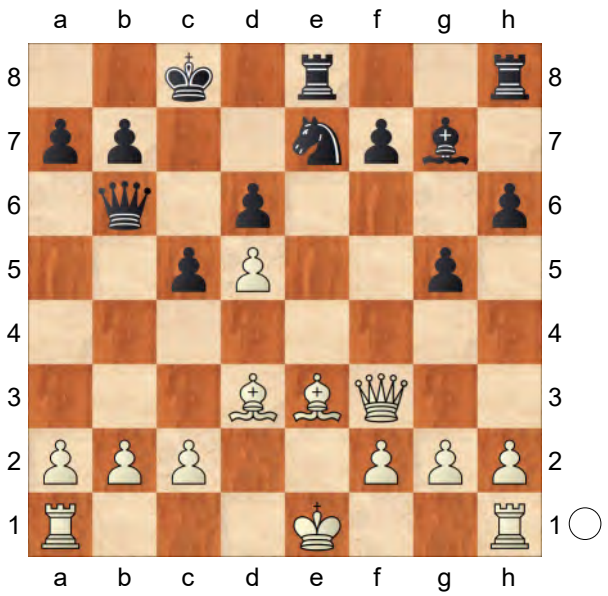
[25...c4! I immediately saw this option possible when I played Ne3, and quickly understood that this could be strong. Ich sah sofort, dass diese Option möglich ist, als ich Se3 spielte, und verstand schnell, dass dies stark sein könnte. 26.dxc4 Be4 27.Qf4 Bc6 Main idea for black transferring the bishop to long a8-h1 diagonal by sacrificing pawn. This gives lot of counterplay especially in blitz. Die Hauptidee für Schwarz ist die Verlagerung des Läufers auf die lange Diagonale a8-h1 durch ein Bauernopfer. Das gibt viel Gegenspiel, besonders im Blitz.]

26.Rfc1 Stopping c4 .Stoppt c4. **26...Ra8 27.Qf4 Ra5 28.Rcb1 Bg6 29.Rb2** Doubling the rooks and putting pressure on b6.Verdoppelt die Türme und drückt auf b6. **29...Qc6 30.Rab1** Trying to trade a4 for b6.Versucht, a4 gegen b6 zu tauschen. **30...Qxa4**

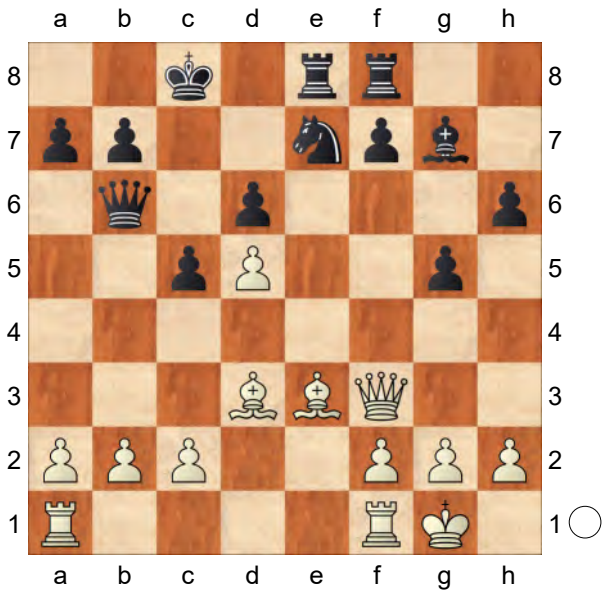
31.Qxa4 Rxa4 32.Rxb6+- White is a full pawn up and black bishop is restricted and this is winning for white, but it is never easy when playing 2 sec increment.Weiß hat einen vollen Bauern mehr und der schwarze Läufer ist eingeschränkt, was für Weiß zum Gewinn führt, aber es ist nie einfach, wenn man mit 2 Sekunden Aufschlag spielt. **32...Kh7 33.R1b2 Ra1+ 34.Kg2 Rc1 35.Rc6 Re5 36.Rc8 Bf5 37.Nxf5 Rxf5 38.f4 Rd5 39.Rc7 Rf5 40.Kf3 h5 41.Rb5 g6 42.e4 Rf6 43.Rbxc5 Rf1+ 44.Kg2 Rd1 45.Rd5 h4 46.Rdd7 Kg8 47.e5 Rf5 48.Kf3 hxg3 49.hxg3 Rf1+ 50.Kg2 Re1 51.Kf3 Rf1+ 52.Ke2 Rg1 53.Kf2 Rd1 54.e6 fxe6** I assumed I had Rd8# here when I played e6 .Ich nahm an, dass ich hier Td8# hätte, als ich e6 spielte. **55.Rg7+** Fortunately it didn't spoil anything. Zum Glück hat es nichts verdorben. **55...Kf8 56.Rxg6 Rf7 57.Rc8+ Ke7 58.Rc6 Rf6 59.Rc7+ Kd6 60.Rxf6 Kxc7 61.Rxe6 Rxd3 62.Re3 Rd2+ 63.Kf3 Kd6 64.f5 Kd7 65.g4 Ra2 66.g5 Kd6 67.Kg4 Ra4+ 68.Kh5 Rf4 69.f6 Rf1 70.Kg6 Kd7 71.f7 Kd6 72.Kg7** After resignation I went back in the chair and took a huge breath! This is probably the highest stake blitz game I have ever played! Getting me the candidates spot!
This was overall a great fighting match! Kudos to my friend Arjun for showing his mental ability to comeback twice with black on demand!Nach der Aufgabe setzte ich mich wieder auf den Stuhl und atmete tief durch! Dies ist wahrscheinlich die Blitzpartie mit dem höchsten Einsatz, die ich je gespielt habe! Das brachte mir den Kandidatenplatz! Dies war insgesamt ein großartiges Kampfmatch! Hut ab vor meinem Freund Arjun, der seine mentalen Fähigkeiten unter Beweis gestellt hat, indem er zweimal mit Schwarz auf Bestellung zurückkam! **72...Kd5**
1-0

A45
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2710**
■ **Praggnanandhaa,Rameshbabu** **2690**
FIDE World Cup (6.2) 16.08.2023
[Kitty Kat]

A45: Trompowsky Attack
1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.d5 Qb6N
[3...d6 4.Nc3 g6 5.e4 Bg7 6.f4 0-0 7.Nf3 a6 8.a4 Nh5 9.f5 Nd7 10.Be2 Rb8 11.0-0 Nhf6 12.Qe1 Re8 13.Qh4 c4 14.Be3 Qc7 15.Kh1 b6 16.g4 Nc5 17.g5 Nfd7 18.Bd4 Trompowsky Attack-1.d4 ♘f6 2.♗g5 c5 3.d5 d6 Survey 2012 Ne5 19.Nxe5 dxe5 20.Be3 b5 21.axb5 axb5 22.Qf2 Trompowsky Attack-1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.d5 d6 Survey 2012]
4.Nc3 h6 5.Bd2 d6 6.e4 e5 1.01/18
[6...g6± 0.62/19]
7.dxe6 0.52/18
[7.a4± 1.01/18]
7...Bxe6± **8.Nge2** White is slightly better. **8...Nc6 9.Nf4 0-0-0 10.Bd3** 0.26/20
[10.a4± 0.64/19]
10...g5 0.63/22
[10...Ne5= 0.26/20 might be stronger.]
11.Nfd5 Bxd5 12.Nxd5 Nxd5 13.exd5 Re8+ 14.Be3! Ne7 1.15/20
[14...Ne5± 0.70/20]
15.Qf3 Bg7
(Diagram)



16.0-0!
[16.Qxf7 Qb4+ 17.Ke2 Bxb2 18.Qe6+ Kc7-+]
16...Rhf8

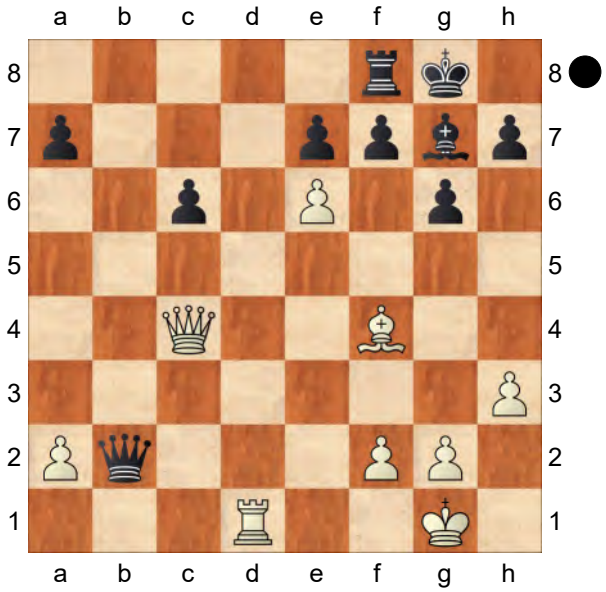


17.h4! 0.41/19 **f5** 0.87/21
[17...Kb8± 0.41/19 feels stronger.]
[17...Be5 18.hxg5]
18.hxg5± hxg5 19.Bxg5 Qxb2 1.36/20
[Black should try 19...Be5 0.81/20]
20.Rab1 Qc3 3.63/23
[20...Qxa2 1.80/23 21.Rfe1 Be5 *(21...Nxd5? perishes. 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.c4+-)*]
21.Rb3 Qe5 5.51/24
[21...Qd4 3.29/21 was necessary. 22.Bb5 Qg4 23.Qxg4 fxg4 24.Bxe8 Rxe8]
22.Bb5 A strong pair of Bishops. **22...f4 23.Qh3+**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.54. Loss on time!?
0-1

B22
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2710**
■ **Praggnanandhaa,Rameshbabu** **2690**
FIDE World Cup (6.2) 16.08.2023
[Kitty Kat]

B22: Sicilian: 2 c3
1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.d4 cxd4 6.cxd4 d6 7.Bc4 Nb6 8.Bb5 Bd7 9.Nc3
[9.exd6 keeps more tension. e6 10.Bg5 f6 11.Bd2]
9...dxe5 10.dxe5 g6! 11.0-0 Bg7
The position is equal. **12.Qe2**
[12.Bf4 0-0 13.Re1 Be6 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Qc1 Bg4 16.Ng5 h6 17.Nge4 g5 18.Bg3 Nc4 19.Nxg5 hxg5 20.Qxg5 Be6 21.b3 Nb6 22.Bf4 Nd5 23.Rad1 f6 24.exf6 exf6 25.Qg3 Bf5 26.Ne2 Re8 Giulian,R (1922)-Kochavi,D (2009) Olympiad Women-45 2024 (5.24) 0-1]
12...0-0 13.h3 Be6N
[13...a6 14.Bd3 Be6 15.a3 Nd7 16.Bf4 Ndxe5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Bxa6 Qd4 19.Bxe5 Qxe5 20.Qxe5 Bxe5 21.Bxb7 Rab8 22.Bf3 Rxb2 23.Nd5 Rb3 24.Nxe7+ Kg7 25.Rad1 Rxa3 26.Nc6 Bc3 27.Bd5 Bc8 28.f4 Kobernat,A (2357)-5.d5 ♗a6 6. ♕c2 exd5 7.cxd (2561) Netherlands corr 1968 (9) 1-0]

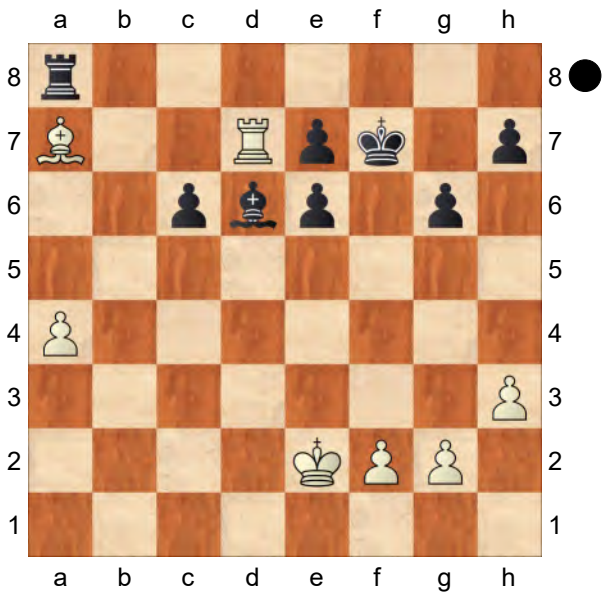
14.Rd1 Repels Nc6-d4 **14...Qc7 15.Bf4 Rad8 16.Rac1** -0.11/20
[⌓16.Bg3 0.26/19]
16...Nd5 0.28/22
[16...Rxd1+ -0.11/20 feels stronger. 17.Rxd1 Rd8]
17.Nxd5= Bxd5 18.Nd4 Qb6 19.Nxc6 -0.28/21
[⌓19.Bxc6 0.10/22 bxc6 20.b3]
19...bxc6 20.Bc4 Bxc4 21.Qxc4 Rxd1+ 22.Rxd1 Qxb2 23.e6



aiming for e6xf7+. **23...Qf6 24.Be3 Qxe6 25.Qxe6 fxe6 26.Bxa7** Endgame. KRB-KRB **26...Ra8 27.Rd7 Kf7 28.a4** -0.65/23
[28.Kf1= -0.23/22 is more appropriate.]
28...Be5∓ 29.Kf1 Bd6 Prevents Ba7-c5. **30.Ke2**

(Diagram)

e5! 31.Kd3 -1.03/25
[31.a5∓ -0.66/25]
31...Ke6∓ 32.Rb7 Kd5 33.f3 -1.40/26
[White should play 33.a5 -0.86/23]
33...c5 34.a5 Rf8 -0.02/23
[34...g5∓ -1.38/26 35.a6 h5]

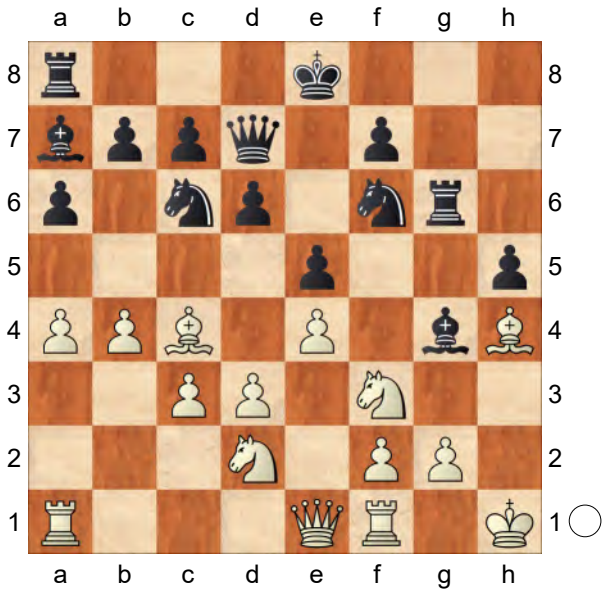


35.a6 -1.16/24
[35.Rb1= -0.02/23]
35...Ra8 36.Kc3 -1.21/25
[⌓36.h4 -0.84/24]
36...g5 37.Kd3 h5 38.Kc3 -2.03/23
[38.g3∓ -1.09/24]
38...e4-+ 39.fxe4+ -2.33/24
[39.Kd2 -1.77/26 was necessary.]
39...Kxe4 40.Kc4 Kf4
[40...g4 41.hxg4 hxg4 42.Rd7∓]
41.Kb5 h4 Strongly threatening ...Kf4-g3.
[41...Kg3 42.Rd7= *(42.Bb6 h4∓)*]
42.Rd7? -3.78/23 This move loses the game for White.
[42.Bxc5? Bxc5 43.Kxc5 Rxa6-+]
[42.Bb6∓ -1.04/23 was the only chance.]
42...Kg3 43.Bb6 c4
[Inferior is 43...Kxg2 44.Ra7 Rh8 *(44...Rxa7 45.Bxa7 e5 46.Bxc5±)* 45.Rd7=]
44.Bc7? -5.57/23
[44.Ba5 -2.32/19 was the crucial defense.]
44...Bxc7
[44...Kxg2 45.Ba5-+]
45.Rxc7 Kxg2 KR-KR **46.Rc5 Rg8**

[46...Kxh3 47.Rxg5 c3 48.Rc5=]
47.a7 Kxh3 48.Ka6 g4 49.Kb7 Black must now prevent Rc5-c8! **49...g3 50.Rc8 Rxc8 51.Kxc8** KP-KP **51...g2 52.a8Q g1Q** KQ-KQ **53.Qf3+ Qg3 54.Qh1+ Kg4** Threatens to win with ... Qg3-f3. **55.Qe4+ Qf4 56.Qe2+ Kh3 57.Qxe7 c3 58.Qe1 Qf3 59.Qc1 Kh2** Hoping for ...Qf3-f5+. **60.Qc2+ Kg3** -6.66/23
[⌓60...Qg2 -14.39/26 61.Qa4 c2 62.Qf4+ Kh3 63.Qe3+ Qg3]
61.Qc1 Qc6+ 62.Kb8 Qd6+ 63.Kc8 Qc5+ 64.Kb7 c2 (-> ...Kg3-g4) **65.Qe1+ Qf2 66.Qe5+ Kh3 67.Qe6+ Kh2** Black mates. **68.Qe5+ Qg3 69.Qc5 h3 70.Ka6 Qd3+ 71.Ka7 Qd2 72.Qe5+ Kh1 73.Qe4+ Qg2 74.Qf4 Qg1+ 75.Ka6 c1Q**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/ Black=0.13 (very precise)
[Not 75...c1B 76.Qe4+ Kh2 77.Qc2+ Kg3 78.Qg6+ Kh2 79.Qc2+ Qg2 *(79...Kg3 80.Qg6+ Kh2 81.Qc2+∓)* 80.Qxc1∓]
0-1

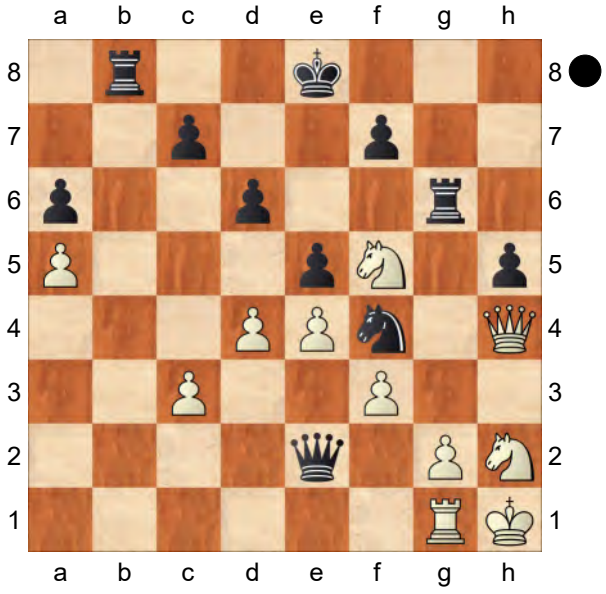
C54
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2702**
■ **Radjabov,Teimour** **2747**
Global Chess League rapid (1.3) 22.6.23
[Kitty Kat]

C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 a6 6.0-0 d6 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 Qe7 9.Nbd2 White is slightly better. **9...Ba7 10.a4 g5** 0.42/19
[10...0-0= 0.02/18]
11.Bg3± Rg8 0.70/19
[Black should play 11...0-0= 0.19/16]
12.b4 h5N
[12...Bg4 13.b5 Nd8 14.d4 a5 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.Bxe5 Ne6 17.Bxe6 fxe6 18.Bd4 Bxd4 19.cxd4 0-0-0 20.Qc2 Bxf3 21.Nxf3 g4 22.Nd2 Rxd4 23.Rfc1 b6 24.Nc4 Qc5 25.e5 Ne4 26.Qb3 g3 27.hxg3 6.♘a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2718)-Vasquez Bonifacio, L (2741) 153/100 Chicago 2022 (6) 1-0]
13.h4 Bg4 14.Qe1 0.22/20
[14.hxg5 Nh7±]
[14.b5± 0.93/17 Nd8 15.hxg5 *(15.bxa6 gxh4 16.axb7 Nxb7+-)*]
14...gxh4= 15.Bxh4 Qd7 0.87/21
16.Kh1 Strongly threatening Nf3-g5.
[16.Bxf6 Bh3 17.d4 *(17.Ng5 Qg4 18.Bxf7+ Kf8)* 17...Bxg2∓ *(17...Rxg2+? 18.Kh1+-)*]
16...Rg6 1.12/20
[16...Nh7± 0.59/19]



17.Nh2 0.39/19
[17.Ng5!± 1.12/20 d5 18.exd5 Nxd5 19.f3 *(19.b5 Nce7±)*]
17...Bh3!± 18.Rg1
[Much worse is 18.gxh3 Qxh3 19.Bg3 h4∓]

18...Be6 19.a5 -0.61/20
[19.b5= 0.24/19 Na5 20.Bxe6 Qxe6 21.Qe2]
19...Ng4 0.01/20 Black is more active.
[19...Bxc4∓ -0.61/20 20.dxc4 Qe6]
20.b5!⇄ Bc4xe6 would now be deadly. White is not holding back **20...Ne7 21.Bxe6 Rxe6 22.bxa6 bxa6 23.Rf1 Ng6 24.f3?** -2.31/21 Loses the game.
[24.Bg5= -0.03/18 and White stays safe.]
24...Ne3-+ Threatens to win with ...Ng6-f4! **25.Bf2 Nxf1 26.Ndxf1 Bxf2 27.Qxf2 Nf4 28.d4 Rb8 29.Ne3 Qb5 30.Nf5** -4.01/21
[⌓30.Ra2 -2.81/19]
30...Rg6 31.Rg1 Qe2 Deflection
[31...Qxa5 32.Qh4 Kf8 *(32...Qxc3 33.Qe7#)* 33.g3=]
32.Qh4 -#6/14
[32.Qxe2-+ -4.81/22 Nxe2 33.Rd1]



32...Qxg2+! Deflection.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.68/Black=0.21 (precise)
0-1

C54
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2702**
■ **Radjabov,Teimour** **2747**
Global Chess League rapid (1.3) 22.6.23
[Kitty Kat]

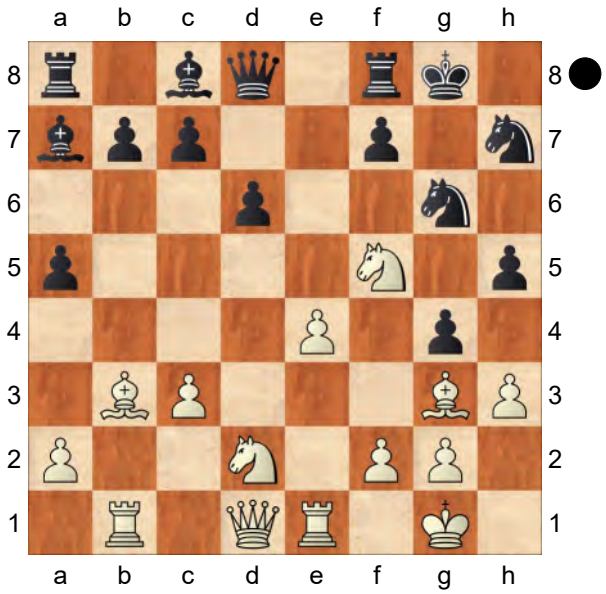
C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 a5 10.Re1 Ba7 11.Nbd2 Nh7 12.d4 g4N
[12...h5 13.h3 Qf6 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.Bb5 g4 16.hxg4 hxg4 17.Nh2 Qg5 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Nc4 Rd8 20.Qa4 Nf6 21.Qxc6 Be6 22.Ne3 Nh5 23.Nhf1 Bb6 24.Rad1 Nxg3 25.Nxg3 Bxe3 26.fxe3 Rxd1 27.Qxa8+ 6.♘a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2701)-Sudgen,J (2766) Anand-Topalov 2006 (3.2) ½-½]
13.Nh4 exd4 14.Rb1 Ne5 0.19/19
[14...Qg5∓ -0.40/18]
15.Bb3 -0.53/18
[15.cxd4= 0.19/19 Bxd4 16.Bf1]
15...dxc3 -0.07/19
[15...d3∓ -0.53/18]
16.bxc3= h5 17.Nf5 -0.63/20
[17.a4= 0.01/19]
17...Ng6 0.18/21
[17...Bxf5∓ -0.63/20 18.exf5 Nd3]
18.h3

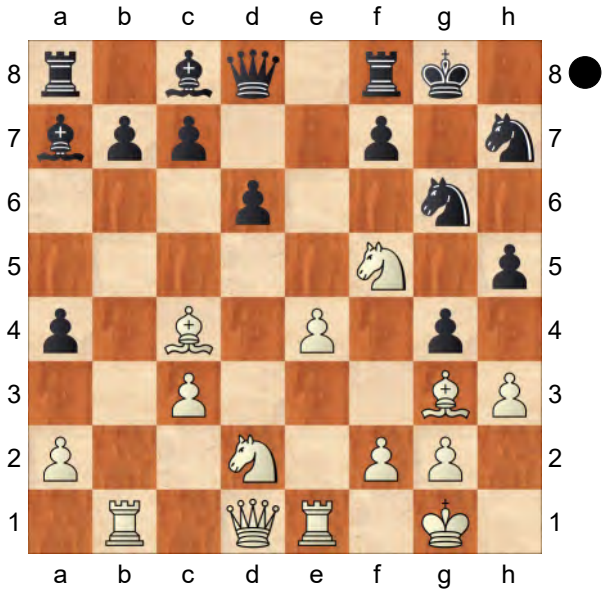
(Diagram)

a4! 19.Bc4
[19.Bxa4? h4 20.Bxh4 *(20.Bh2? g3-+)* 20...Nxh4-+]

(Diagram)

19...d5! 0.39/19 **20.Bxd5± Bxf5** 0.60/21





[Black should try 20...c6!= -0.01/21 21.Bxf7+ *(21.Bc4 b5∓)* 21...Kxf7 *(21...Rxf7 22.Nh6+ Kg7 23.Nxf7=)* 22.hxg4 hxg4 23.Nd6+ Kg8]

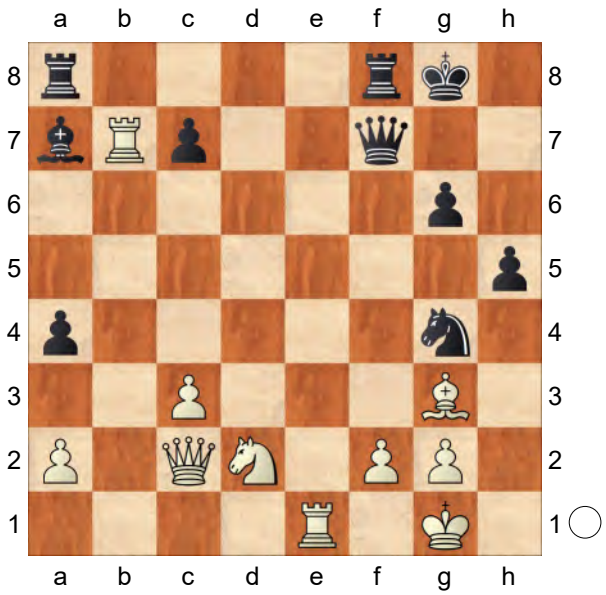
21.exf5

[21.Bxb7? Be6 22.h4 Rb8-+]

21...Qxd5 22.fxg6 fxg6 23.hxg4 Nf6 24.Qc2

[24.Bxc7? Bxf2+ *(24...Qxa2 25.gxh5 Qd5 26.Nf3±; 24...Nxg4 25.Ne4∓)* 25.Kh1 *(25.Kxf2? Qc5+ 26.Ke2 Nd5-+)* 25...Bxe1 *(25...Qxa2? 26.Re2-+; 25...hxg4? 26.Qe2-+; 25...Nxg4? 26.Nf3-+)* 26.Qxe1 Rae8-+ *(26...Qxa2? 27.gxh5 Rae8 28.Qd1-+; 26...Nxg4? 27.Nf3-+; 26...hxg4? 27.Bb6-+)*]

24...Qf7 25.Rxb7 Nxg4



26.Nf3 0.01/22

[26.Qxa4? Bxf2+ 27.Kh1 Rxa4-+]

[26.Ne4!± 1.08/22]

26...Bb6= 27.c4 c4-c5 is the strong threat.

[27.Kf1 seems wilder. Ra5 28.Re2 Rf5 29.Qxa4 Rxf3 30.gxf3 Qxf3 31.Qe4]

27...Ra5

[27...Qf5 simplifies 28.Qxf5 gxf5 29.Kf1 Rfb8]

28.Rb1 Black must now prevent Rb1xb6.

28...Qf6 29.Bxc7 -0.63/23

[29.Qe2= -0.01/20]

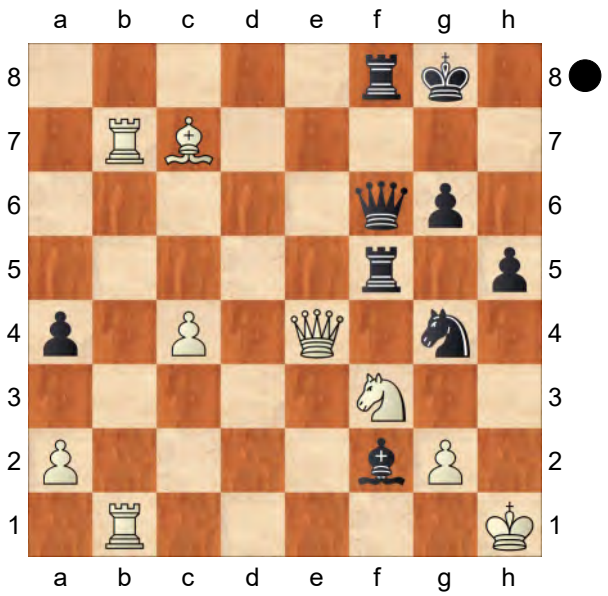
29...Bxf2+∓ 30.Kh1 Rf5 31.Qe4

(Diagram)

Rxf3 -0.28/26

[Black should play 31...Bd4!∓ -1.16/23 (-> ...Qf6-h4+!) 32.Bg3 *(32.Qxd4 Qxd4 33.Bh2 Qd3-+)* 32...h4]

32.Qd5+=

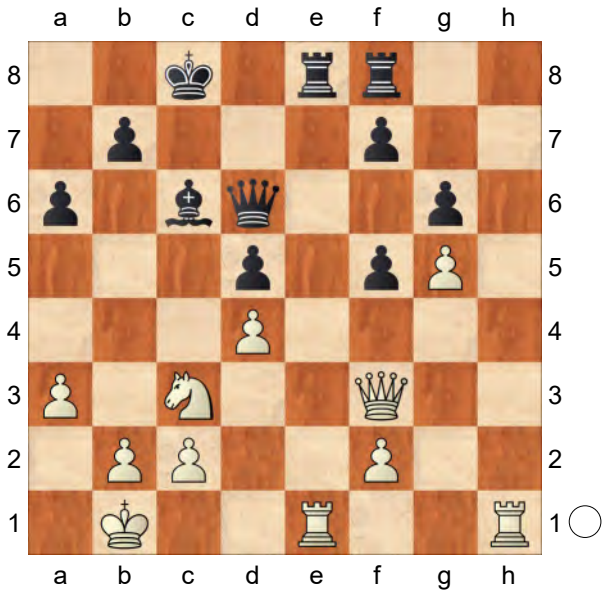


[32.Qxf3 Qh4+ 33.Qh3 Be1-+]
32...Rf7 33.Bd8!↑ White has good play. **33...Qf4** The position is equal. **34.Bc7! Qf6 35.Bd8! Qf4 36.Bc7! Qf6 37.Bd8! Rf5**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.18 (very precise) . Loss on time!?
[37...Qf4? 38.Bc7-+]
0-1

B13

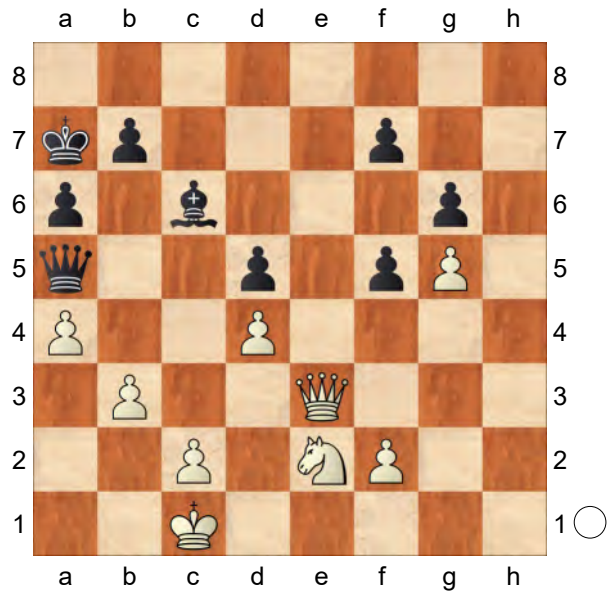
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2710**
■ **Amin,Bassem** **2694**
Biel Blitz 56th (1) 22.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

B13: Caro-Kann: Exchange Variation and Panov-Botvinnik Attack
1.d4 d5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3 cxd4 5.exd4 a6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Ne5 Bd7 8.g4 The position is equal. **8...e6 9.g5** is the new trend.ist der neue Trend. **9...Ng8 10.Nxc6 Bxc6 11.Qf3**
[11.h4 Bd6 12.Qd2 Ne7 13.Bd3 Qc7 14.Ne2 Bxf4 15.Qxf4 Qxf4 16.Nxf4 Kd7 17.Kd2]
11...Bd6 12.0-0-0 -0.33/21
[12.h4= 0.26/20]
12...Ne7 0.55/21
[Black should try 12...h6∓ -0.33/21]
13.Bd3± Qc7 0.94/22
[13...Bxf4+= 0.30/21 14.Qxf4 Qb8]
14.Bxd6± Qxd6 15.h4N g6 1.22/20
[15...0-0± 0.67/20]
16.Rde1 0.81/22
[⌓16.h5 1.22/20]
16...Rf8 17.h5 White has more active pieces. **17...0-0-0 18.Kb1 Nf5 19.Bxf5 exf5 20.hxg6 hxg6 21.a3 Rde8**



22.Rxe8+! Rxe8 23.Rh7 Re7 Black is weak on the dark squares **24.Kc1** 0.01/26
[Better is 24.Rh6± 1.08/22]
24...Kb8 0.47/23
[24...f6!= 0.01/26 25.Rxe7 Qxe7]
25.Kd2 Ka7 26.Qg3 Qd8 27.Qf4 Qe8 28.Rh3 Re6 1.15/23
[⌓28...Qf8 0.74/23]
29.Re3 Rxe3 30.Qxe3 Endgame. KQB-KQN **30...Qh8 31.b3 Qf8 32.a4 Qd8 33.Ne2 Qa5+** 1.67/25
[33...Ka8± 1.22/22 was called for. 34.Kc3 Qa5+ 35.Kb2 Qe1]
34.Kd1+- Qd8 Dodges Qe3-e7 **35.Kc1**

1.28/23
[White should play 35.Nc1+- 1.70/24]
35...Qa5 1.81/25
[35...f6± 1.28/23]



36.Nf4! Qd8 37.Nd3 Bd7 38.f4 Be6 2.21/25
[38...Be8 1.62/27 is a better defense. 39.Qe1 a5]
39.Nc5 Bc8 1.88/26
[39...Bd7± 1.50/26 40.Kb2 Ka8]
40.Qe5 b6 41.Nd3 Hoping for Qe5-g7. **41...Be6 42.a5** Deflection **42...bxa5 43.Nc5** 1.14/26
[⌓43.Kb2 1.56/25]
43...Qb6 2.07/27
[43...Bc8± 1.14/26 was necessary. 44.Nd3 Bb7]
44.Kb2 Qc6 45.Nxe6 fxe6 5.99/25 KQ-KQ
[45...Qxe6 1.86/25 is tougher. 46.Qc7+ Ka8 47.Qxa5 Kb7]
46.Qg7+ Kb6 47.Qxg6 a4 48.Qg8 Strongly threatening Qg8-b8+. **48...a3+** Predecessor: **49.Kxa3** Qg8-b8+ would now be deadly. **49...Qxc2 50.Qb8+ Ka5** Dinh,N (2359)-Banh,G (2362) VIE-ch U13 Hanoi 2022 (8) ½-½ **51.b4#**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.62. An unexpected result.
½-½

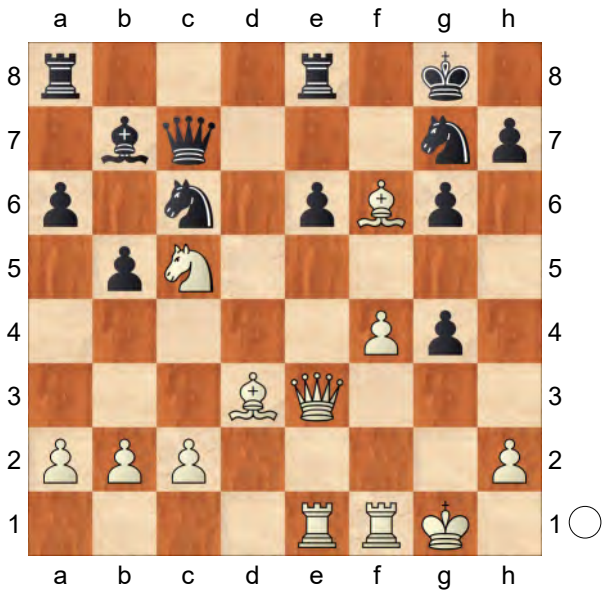
B42

☐	**Erigaisi,Arjun**	**2710**
■	**Keymer,Vincent**	**2690**
Biel 56th (7)		26.07.2023

[Kitty Kat]

B42: Sicilian: Kan Variation: 5 Bd3
RR: 'Inf 71/(172)' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Bc5 6.Nb3 Be7 7.Qg4 g6 8.Nc3 Nc6N**
[8...d6 9.f4 *(9.Qe2 Nd7 10.Bd2 Qc7 11.f4 Ngf6 12.g4 b5 13.a3 Bb7 14.g5 Nh5 15.Rf1 Nc5 16.Nxc5 dxc5* Kell,F (2545)-8.♘e2 ♘c6 9.0-0 b6_66000 (2505) Moscow (m/1-blitz) 101/(430) 2007*)* 9...Nd7 10.0-0 *(10.Qh3 b5 11.f5 Ne5 12.fxg6 Nxg6 13.0-0 b4 14.Ne2 e5 15.Qf3 Be6 16.a3* Astroem,R (2450)-Agrest,E (2460) Sverige (ch) 1997*)* 10...Ngf6 11.Qe2 0-0 12.Kh1 Re8 13.a4 b6 14.e5 Nh5 15.exd6 Bxd6 16.Be4 Ra7 17.a5 Rc7 18.Be3 b5 19.Qf3 Rc4 20.Nxb5 axb5 21.a6 f5 22.Bc6 Bxa6 23.Rxa6 Chess Informant ECO Chess Informant ECO SMALL 2003]
9.0-0 Nf6 10.Qg3 White is slightly better. **10...0-0 11.Bh6 Re8 12.e5 Nh5 13.Qe3↑** White is more active. **13...Qc7 14.f4** g2-g4 is the strong threat. **14...d6** 1.02/20
[14...f5± 0.59/18]
15.Rae1± Ng7 16.g4 White is much more active. **16...b5 17.exd6 Bxd6** 2.04/19
[17...Qxd6± 1.19/20 was called for. 18.Be4 *(18.Ne4 Qd8±)* 18...Rb8]

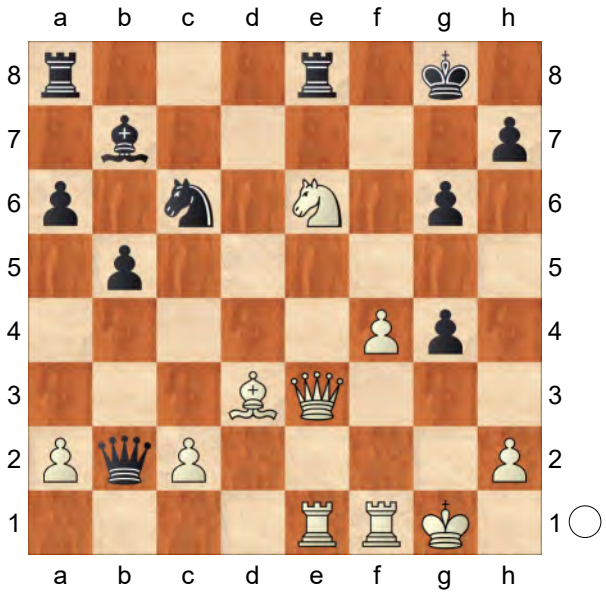
18.Ne4!+- Be7 Dodges Ne4-f6+
19.Bg5? 0.24/21
[19.f5!+- 2.17/19 Black must now prevent f5-f6. Ne5 *(19...gxf5 20.gxf5 f6 21.Kh1+-; 19...exf5?* is the wrong capture. *20.Nf6+* Double Attack *Kh8 21.Bxg7+ Kxg7 22.Nxe8++-)* 20.fxg6 Nxg6 21.Bg5 *(21.Nf6+ Bxf6 22.Rxf6 e5+-)*]
19...Bb7 1.04/20
[19...Nb4!= 0.24/21 keeps the balance.]
20.Nbc5 0.31/20
[20.a3± 1.04/20]
20...f5!± 21.Nf6+ Bxf6 22.Bxf6 fxg4 1.97/19
[22...Nb4± 0.56/21]



23.Bxg7!+- Qxg7 24.Nxe6 Qxb2 2.67/21
[⌓24...Qd7 1.75/21]

(Diagram)

25.f5? 0.40/20
[Only move: 25.Be4!+- 2.67/21]
25...Re7? 6.77/21



[25...Bc8± 0.40/20]
26.fxg6 Threatening mate with Qe3-h6.
26...hxg6 27.Qg5 Rxe6 28.Rxe6 Qd4+ 29.Rf2 Qa1+ 30.Bf1
Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=1.09
1-0

C88
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2710**
■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2690**
Biel 56th (7) 26.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

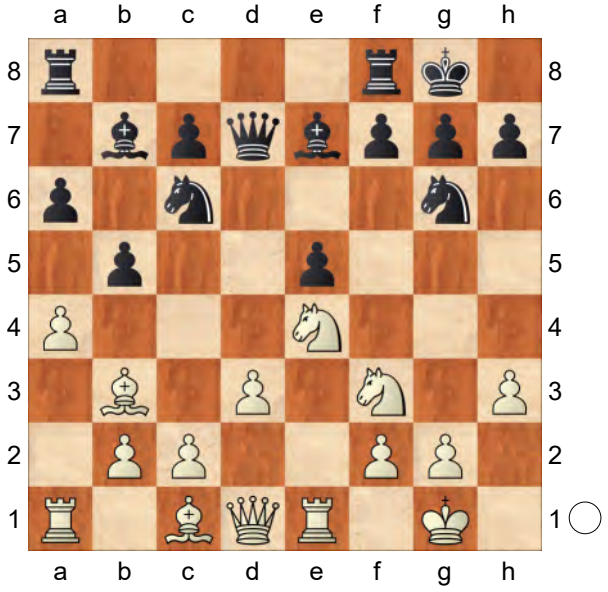
C88: Closed Ruy Lopez: Anti-Marshall Systems
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1
[6.d3 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.a3 0-0 9.Nc3 Be6 10.Nd5 Nd4 11.Nxd4 exd4 12.Nxf6+ Bxf6 13.Bxe6 fxe6 14.f4 c5 15.Qg4 Qd7 16.f5 Rae8 17.Bd2 c4 18.h3 c3 19.bxc3 d5 20.Bg5 Bxg5 10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5 7469 (2772)-Molina,R (2853) CCOL6 prel3-02 1965 (11) ½-½]
6...b5 7.Bb3 0-0N

[7...d6 8.d4 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 exd4 10.c3 dxc3 11.Nxc3 0-0 12.a4 Bb7 13.axb5 axb5 14.Rxa8 Bxa8 15.Bg5 b4 A8) RL – 8th Move Alternati-8th Move Alternatives – 8.]

8.h3 Bb7 9.d3 d5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nbd2 Qd7 The position is equal. **12.a4** -0.04/20

[12.Nxe5± 0.44/19 Nxe5 13.Rxe5]

12...Nf4 13.Ne4 Ng6



14.h4! Qg4! 15.Bg5 Bxg5 16.hxg5 Rad8 0.54/22

[16...Na5= 0.00/20]

17.axb5!± axb5 18.g3 Bc8! 19.Nfd2 Qh3 0.41/23

[19...Qd7= -0.01/22]

20.c3 Rxd3 21.Qe2 Rfd8 22.Ra8 b4 23.Rea1 Qg4 24.f3 Qh3

[24...Nf4? 25.Qxd3 Nxd3 26.fxg4+-]

25.Nf1 And now Ne4-f2 would win. Really sharp! **25...bxc3 26.bxc3** aiming for Ne4-f2. **26...Nd4 27.Bxf7+!**

[27.Qxd3? Nf4 *(27...Nxb3 28.Qxd8+ Nf8 29.Rxc8)* 28.gxf4 *(28.Bxf7+? Kxf7 29.g6+ Ke7-+)* 28...Nxf3+∓ *(28...Nxb3 29.Qxd8#; 28...Nxb3 29.Qxd8#)*]

27...Kxf7 28.cxd4

[28.Qxd3? Nf4 29.g6+ *(29.gxf4? Nxf3+-+* Discovered Attack*; 29.Qc4+? Be6-+)* 29...Ke7-+ *(29...Kxg6 30.Nf2+ Nxd3 31.Nxh3∓)*]

28...R3xd4 29.R1a7 Be6 1.11/24

[29...Kg8± 0.55/23]

30.Rxc7+± Kg8 31.Raa7 R4d7 32.Rxd7 Rxd7 33.Ra8+ Nf8 34.Nc5 Re7 35.Qe4

[35.Qxe5? Qxf1+ 36.Kxf1 Bh3+ 37.Kf2 Rxe5-+]

[35.Nxe6 simplifies Qxe6 36.Ne3 Re8 37.Rxe8 Qxe8 38.Ng4]

35...Qf5 36.Qc6

[36.Qxf5 simplifies Bxf5 37.Ne3 Bg6 38.Kg2]

36...Bf7 37.Rd8→ Black needs to defend precisely. **37...Qg6 38.Qa8 Be8 39.Qd5+ Kh8** 1.53/22

[Black should try 39...Qf7± 0.63/22]

40.Ne4 0.84/24 White is much more active. Black is weak on the dark squares

[⌓40.Rc8 1.53/22]

40...Qe6 1.45/24

[Better is 40...Rd7 0.84/24 41.Rxd7 Bxd7]

41.Qxe6 Nxe6 42.Rb8 Kg8 43.Ne3 Kf8 44.Nc4 Nd4 1.65/24

[44...Rd7± 1.24/22 was necessary. 45.Nxe5 Rd4]

45.Kf2 Nc6 46.Rc8 Nc4-d6 is the strong threat. **46...Na7 47.Ra8 Nb5 48.Rb8 Nc7** 2.39/24

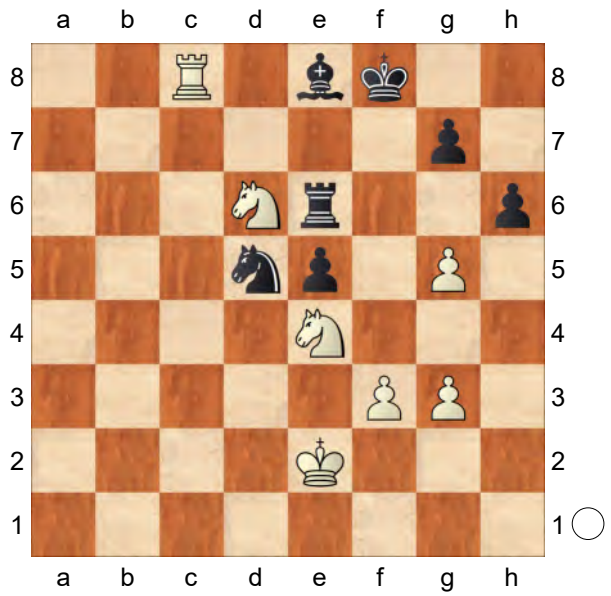
[48...Rc7± 1.56/20 49.Nxe5 Ke7]

49.Ncd6!+- Re6 50.Rc8 Nd5 51.Ke2 h6 2.94/28

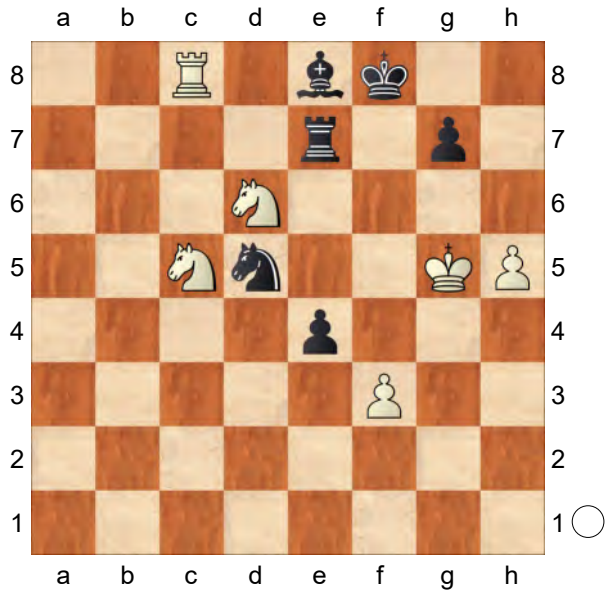
[⌓51...Nb4 2.09/28 52.Kd2 Nd5]

(Diagram)

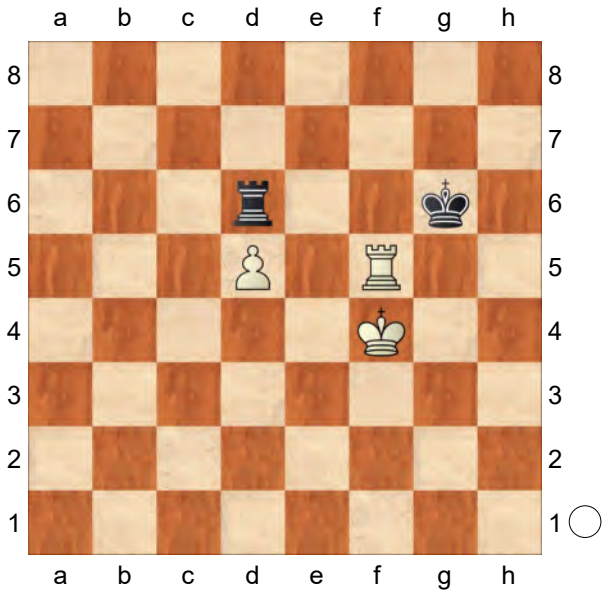
52.g6! h5 53.Kf2 h4 54.gxh4 Nf4



55.Rd8 Nxg6 56.Kg3
[56.Nc5 Rxd6 57.Rxd6 Nxh4±]
56...Nf4 57.Kg4 Nd5 58.h5 Nc7 4.12/30
[58...Ne3+ 2.84/25 was called for. 59.Kg5 Nc2]
59.Rc8 Nd5 60.Kg5 Re7 61.Nc5 Black must now prevent Nc5-d7+!
[61.Nf5 Re6 62.Nc5 Re7 63.Nxe7 Kxe7]
61...e4

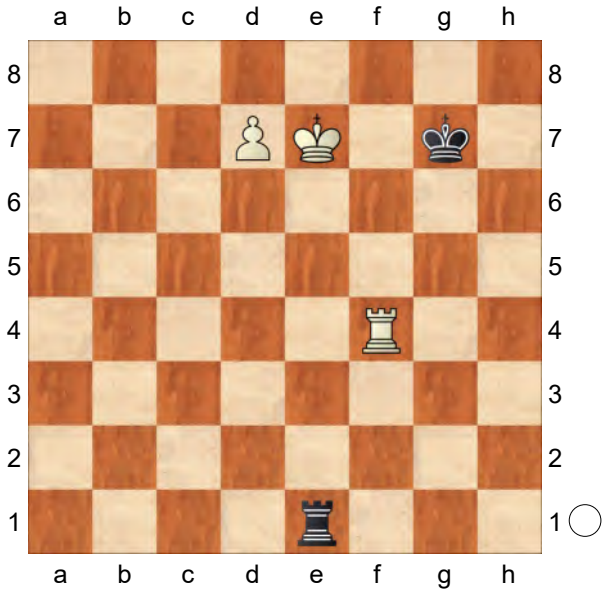


62.Nd7+! Deflection. A dynamic duo of knights. **62...Kg8 63.fxe4**
[63.Rxe8+ Rxe8 64.fxe4 *(64.Nxe8? is the wrong capture. exf3 65.h6 f2-+)* 64...Re6-+]
[63.Nxe8 Kf7 64.Nd6+ Ke6]
63...Rxd7 64.Rxe8+
[Not 64.Nxe8 Kf7=]
64...Kh7 65.exd5 Threatens to win with Re8-e6. **65...Rxd6** Endgame. KR-KR **66.Re5** Kg5-f4 would now be deadly. **66...Kg8 67.Rf5 g6 68.hxg6 Kg7 69.Kf4**
[And not 69.Rf7+ Kg8=]
69...Kxg6



70.Ke4! Rf6? 7.46/33
[70...Rd7± 0.58/27]
71.Re5 Rf1 72.Kd4 Rc1 73.d6 Ra1 74.Re2 Kf7 75.Kd5 Hoping for d6-d7. **75...Rc1 76.d7** Strongly threatening Kd5-d6. **76...Rd1+ 77.Kc6** Threatening mate with Re2-e8. **77...Rc1+ 78.Kd6 Rd1+ 79.Kc7 Rc1+ 80.Kd8** White threatens Re2-e7+ and mate. **80...Kf8 81.Rf2+** 5.77/24
[⌓81.Re4 #21/25 Kf7 82.Rf4+ Kg7 83.Ke7 Re1+ 84.Kd6 Rd1+ 85.Ke6 Kg6 86.Rf6+ Kh5 87.Rf5+ Kg4 88.Rd5]
81...Kg7 82.Rf5 Intending Kd8-e7 and

mate. **82...Kg6 83.Rf4** White mates. **83...Kg7 84.Ke7 Re1+**



85.Kd6! Rd1+ 86.Ke6 Rd2 87.Rf5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.20 (precise)
1-0

B36

☐ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
■ **Sindarov,Javokhir** **2658**

Asian Games Men 2023 rapid (5.3)
[Chris Ward]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nc3 d6 7.Be2 Nxd4 8.Qxd4 Bg7 9.Be3 0-0 10.Qd3 With Black now castled and the g7-bishop protected, Black was threatening a discovered attack and so her majesty had to be withdrawn.

[We have seen this and 10 Qd1 on the site before but 10.Qd2 is overwhelmingly more popular when you will find plenty on here with each of Be6 , 10...Qa5 and 10...a5 in the archives.]

10...a6

[The white queen is slightly awkward looking on d3 but given the results in practice (quite good!), should not be under-estimated. Now not dissimilar to when her majesty is on d2, Black's main three plans are: 1) Razz the a-pawn down to a4 to facilitate a ... Qa5. 2) Park that a-pawn on a5 when in controlling the b4-square, a ...Nd7-c5 plan is facilitated. 3) Target the c4-pawn through the likes of ...Be6 and ... Rc8.4) Look to make a ...b5 pawn break. With that in mind, it will come as no great surprise that previously we've covered each of 10...a5 10...Be6, 10... Nd7, 10...Bd7 as well as 10...Ng4 but the text is a first, clearly with plan 4 in mind!]

11.0-0 Bd7 Black is somewhat telegraphing his ...b5 pawn break plan but if White attempted to prevent it through a2-a4 then at the very least Black could play ...a5 securing the b4-square and hence with an obvious ...Bc6, ...Nd7-c5 plan to follow. **12.Bd4**

[12.Rfd1 b5 13.cxb5 axb5 14.Nxb5 Bxb5 15.Qxb5 Rb8 16.Qc4 Rxb2 might be a better version of the main game because of 17.e5 as would]

[12.f3 b5 13.cxb5 axb5 14.Nxb5 Bxb5 15.Qxb5 Rb8 16.Qd3 Rxb2 *(or 16...Nd7)*]

[However 12.Rac1 b5 13.cxb5 axb5 14.Nxb5 Rxa2 wouldn't!]

12...b5 13.cxb5

[13.Rfd1 bxc4 14.Qxc4 Qb8 facilitates bringing the other rook to c8.]

13...axb5 14.Nxb5

[It's too late for 14.f3?! now with b4 15.Nd5? Nxd5 16.exd5 Bb5! a handy tactic to note.]

14...Bxb5 15.Qxb5 Nxe4 16.Bxg7

[White might like to preserve his bishop pair but 16.Bb6 Qb8 is no better than 'murky' with Black's minor pieces pretty handy too.]

16...Kxg7 17.a4 It's great to see this type of position played out by very strong players and very instructive it is too. Many club players might be of the opinion that White is much better because he has a bishop for a knight and outside passed pawns. That opinion would be incorrect though. I often say that for any endgames involving rooks, strong centre pawns still rule whilst the presence of queens on the board here too means that the knight is not the inferior minor piece.

[17.Bf3 Rb8 18.Qe2 Nf6 is objectively equal although frankly I'd still prefer to play with the black pieces.]

17...d5 18.a5 Qd6 Centralising her majesty and paving the way for the other rook to swing to the queenside.

[18...Rb8 is possible too but after 19.Qd3 not Rxb2?? 20.Qd4+]

19.Rfd1

[Upon 19.a6? Rfb8 20.Qd3 Nc5 White's queenside pawns are disjointed with at least one not unlikely to drop off soon.]

19...e6 Black has a rock solid centre and can focus on dealing with those opposition passed pawns. **20.Qa4** Coming out of the way of the b-pawn but specifically threatening Qxe4. **20...Qc5 21.Qd4+ Qxd4 22.Rxd4** With my previous comments still applying to this endgame. Provided a successful white promotion isn't imminent, whilst the rooks are on, I favour the centre pawns. **22...Rfb8 23.Ra2**

[Or 23.b4?! Nc3 24.Kf1 Ra7 25.Rc1 e5 26.Rd2 d4 when those a- and b-pawns are going nowhere.]

23...Kf6 Controlling the centre makes for far easier king activation. **24.Kf1 Ke5 25.Rda4 Nc5**

[The flexible 25...Ra7 and 25...Nd2+ 26.Ke1 Nb3 also appealed.]

26.R4a3 Kd6 27.Ke1 Ra7 28.a6 e5

[28...Nb3 also looked good but one certainly can't fault advancing those centre pawns.]

29.Ra5 f5 This is much more fun for Black! **30.Kd1 Rb4** Flexible and rubbing in the fact that White's b-pawn won't be going anywhere fast if at all. **31.Kc2 Rc7**

[Or the immediate 31...d4! This is so grovelly for White!]

32.a7 A case of 'fingers crossed' and 'do your worst'! **32...Nb3+ 33.Kd3**

[And not 33.Kb1?? Rc1# nor]

[33.Kd1?? Rc1#]

33...Rd4+ 34.Ke3 Re4+

[And essentially Black now bales out for the draw although even now I'm not sure about 34...Rxa7 35.Rxa7 f4+ 36.Kf3 Nd2+ 37.Kg4 f3+ 38.Kg5 h6+! *(38...fxe2 39.R7a6+ Kc5 40.R6a5+ Kb4 41.R5a4+ Kb3 42.R4a3+ Kc2 43.b4+ Kb1 44.Ra1+ Kc2 45.R1a2+ Kd1 46.Ra1+ Kc2* is an amusing perpetual and so instead Black looks to create some 'luft' on the kingside.*)* e.g. 39.Kxh6 Rh4+ 40.Kxg6 Rg4+ 41.Kh5 fxe2 42.R7a6+ Kc5 43.Ra1 Rxg2 Crazy stuff!]

[34...f4+ 35.Kf3 Nd2+ 36.Kg4 f3+ 37.Kg5 Rxa7 would transpose to the above.]

35.Kd3 Nc1+ 36.Kd2 Nb3+ 37.Kd3 Retreating to d1 or e1 would allow the

mate in one ...Rc1. **37...Nc1+ 38.Kd2 Nb3+**
½-½

C43

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2710**
■ **Fedoseev,Vladimir** **2676**
FIDE World Cup (20) 05.08.2023
[Harry Grieve,Kitty Kat]

C43: Petroff Defence: 3 d4
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d4 Nxe4 4.dxe5 d5 5.Nbd2 Qd7 Since being introduced in Vitiugov-Caruana in 2018, this move has taken over as the main move at the top level.
[5...Nxd2 6.Bxd2 Be7 7.Bd3 c5 8.c3 Nc6 9.0-0 Bg4 10.Re1 0-0 11.h3 Bh5 12.Bf5 Kh8 13.Qe2 Qb6 14.Bf4 Rae8 15.Rad1 d4 16.g4 Bg6 17.Qc2 Rd8 18.h4 Qa6 19.cxd4 cxd4 20.Qb3 6.♘a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2722)-Boskovic,M (2713) Part I - Early Deviations 2013 0-1]
6.Nd4N -0.01/20 Arjun comes up with an equally creative idea, which was also seen in Vachier-Lagrave-Nepomniachtchi in the Zagreb Rapid 2022.
[6.Bd3 Nc5 7.Be2 has been the most common direction for White. g6 *(7...Ne6 8.Nf1 Nc6 9.Ng3 b6* 7) Petroff 3.d4 without 6.Nxd-3.d4 without 6.Nxd7: 5.Nbd2 Q*)* 8.Nb3 Ne6 9.Be3 c5 10.Ng5 b6 11.Nxe6 fxe6 12.a4 Bb7 13.0-0 Nc6 14.f4 Bh6 15.a5 Ne7 16.Bg4 d4 17.Bc1 0-0 18.Qd3 Bd5 19.Qh3 Bg7 20.Nd2 Nf5 21.c4 dxc3 22.bxc3 Chapter Middlegames-Games Chapter Middlegames (3)]
[6.Nxe4± 0.41/20 dxe4 7.Nd4]
6...Qe7=
[6...Nc6?! 0.85/21 6...Qe7 0.01 shows one of the key ideas behind White's 6th move: 7.e6! fxe6 8.Nxc6! Qxc6? 2.87/20 *(8...bxc6 9.Nxe4* is structural disaster for Black.*; 8...bxc6±* 0.60/22 *9.Nxe4 dxe4)* 9.Nxe4+- Hoping for Qh5+. dxe4? 4.57/20 *(9...Be7* 2.85/19 *10.Ng3 Bd7)* 10.Qh5++- g6 11.Qe5+- when the dual threat of Qxh8 and Bb5 wins material.]
7.N2f3 g6?! 0.71/20
[7...c5? 1.43/21 7...a6 0.07 was played in the aforementioned game, but this is even worse: 8.Nb5 Be6 2.21/22 *(8...a6±* 1.50/21 was necessary.*)* 9.c4!+- a6 *(9...dxc4* 2.96/23 9...a6 1.98 *10.Ng5!+-)* 10.cxd5 axb5 11.Bxb5+! Bd7 12.Bd3 either regains the piece or provokes f5 13.0-0+- with massive compensation due to the central pawns.]
[7...Nd7! is probably Black's best: 8.Nb5 *(8.Be2!? Nxe5 9.0-0 Nxf3+ 10.Bxf3* also offers White interesting compensation for the pawn. *)*
A) 8...Nxe5?! 0.53/22 8...Nb6 -0.01 9.Nxe5 Qxe5 1.00/23 *(9...c6±* 0.52/23 is superior. *10.Qd4 f6)* 10.Qxd5!± is the tactical justification.;
B) 8...Nb6 9.Bd3 a6 10.Nc3 Nxc3 11.bxc3 when the materialistic engine wants to go pawn grabbing with Na4 12.0-0 Nxc3 13.Qe1 Na4 14.Bg5⩲]
[7...Nd7= 0.12/21]
8.Bd3± White is better. **8...Nd7**
[8...Bg7 runs into the same kind of problems: 9.0-0! aiming for c4. Bxe5? 2.17/21 *(9...Nd7* 1.11/20 9...0-0 0.55 is the game.*; 9...0-0!±* 0.48/20 *)*

10.Nxe5+- Qxe5 11.Bh6!+- Black will never be able to survive grabbing the pawn like this.]

9.0-0 Bg7

[9...Nxe5 will entail a piece sacrifice due to the pressure down the e-file: 10.Re1 Bg7 11.Nxe5 Qxe5 12.Nb3 f3 would now be deadly. 0-0 13.f3 f5 14.fxe4 fxe4 15.c3± similar lines exist in the Petroff, but here Black is lacking development to claim anywhere near full compensation. Dodges c5]

10.Re1 0.68/21

[10.c4! is even stronger: Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Bxe5 1.53/22 *(⌓11...Qxe5* 1.08/21 *12.Nf3 Qd6)* 12.cxd5± Nd6 13.Re1 0-0 14.Bf4! f6 15.Bg3±]

[10.c4± 1.08/22 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Qxe5 12.Nf3]

10...Ndc5 1.11/20

[10...0-0± 0.68/21 was preferrable.]

11.c4 c6 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.Bxe4 Nxe4 14.Qb3 Be6 15.Nd2 Nc5 16.Qe3 After troubles in the opening, White is clearly better having maintained the pawn on e5 giving good control of the dark squares but Fedoseev plays impressively from hereon to gradually neutralise White's initiative. White is more active. **16...0-0 17.b3 Rfc8 18.a4**

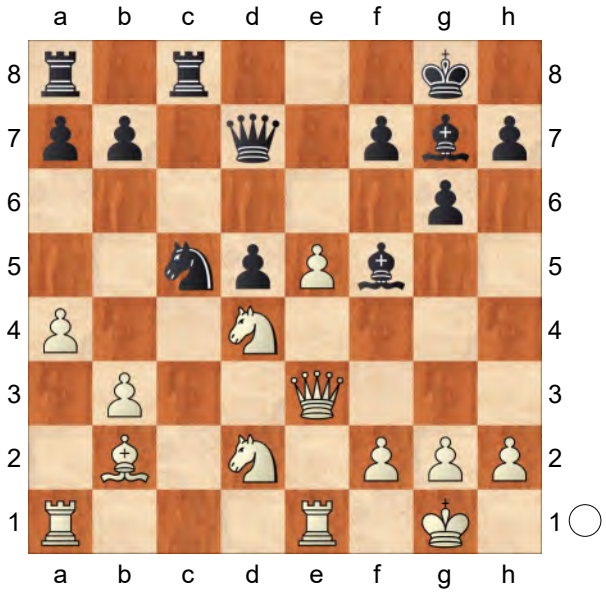
[18.Ba3!? b6 19.Rad1 Qd7 Prevents Nb5. 20.Nb1 Re8 21.h3 the a4-a5 plan by Arjun in the game seems misguided, so playing without this allows White to gradually increase the pressure on the weak d5 pawn whilst Black remains passive. Prevents Bg4]

18...Qd7 0.63/22

[18...Qh4= 0.13/20 19.Rf1 Bd7]

19.Bb2 Bf5 0.84/20

[Better is 19...b6± 0.31/19]



20.h3 0.28/20

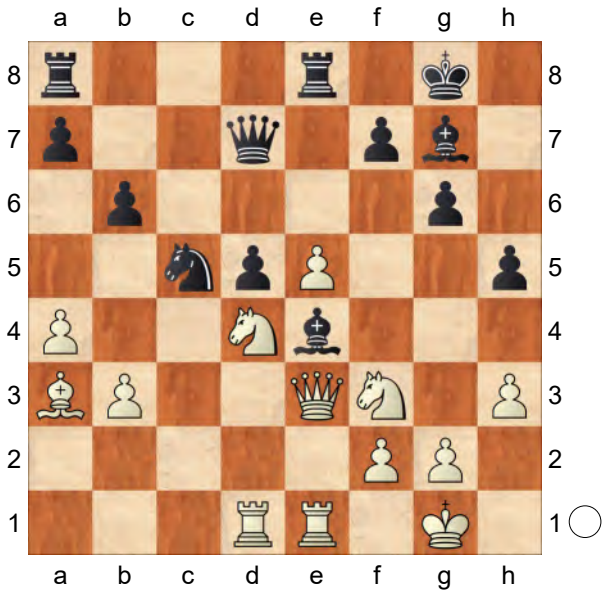
[White should play 20.Nf1!± 0.84/20]

20...h5 0.71/22

[20...Nd3 21.Nxf5 Qxf5 22.g4 Qxf2+ 23.Qxf2]

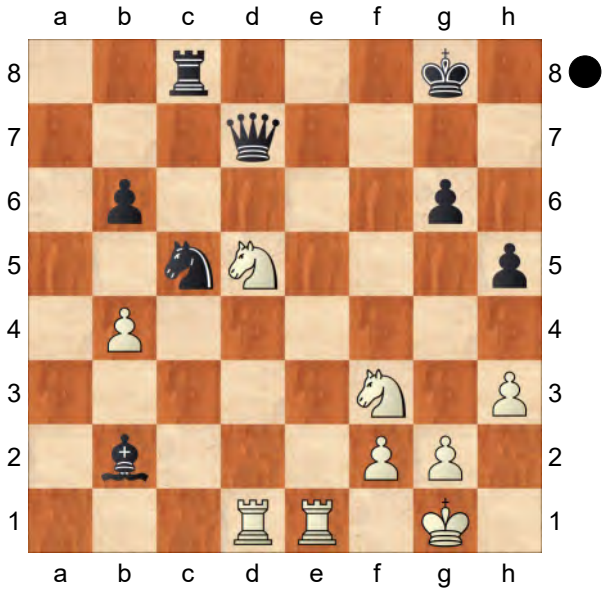
[20...b6= 0.28/20 feels stronger.]

21.Ba3 b6! 22.Rad1 Re8 23.N2f3 Bxc5 is the strong threat. **23...Be4**



24.a5?! 0.03/22 **Rac8= 25.axb6 axb6 26.Bb2 f6 27.exf6 Bxf6 28.b4 Bc2!** Discovered Attack **29.Nxc2** Discovered

Attack
[29.Qf4!? is another way of giving up material: Bxd1 30.Qxf6 Rxe1+ 31.Nxe1 Qf7 32.Qe5± with powerful threats on the dark squares in return for the exchange.]
[29.Qf4 seems wilder. Bxd1 30.Qxf6 Rxe1+ 31.Nxe1 Qf7 32.Qe5]
29...Rxe3
[29...Bxb2? 30.Qg5 Rxe1+ 31.Rxe1+- *(31.Ncxe1 Ne6+-)*]
30.Nxe3 Bxb2 31.Nxd5!



Re8 Wards off Ne7+ **32.Nxb6!** Excellent horsemanship.
[Weaker is 32.bxc5 Rxe1+ *(32...bxc5?* perishes. *33.Nf6+* Discovered Attack *Bxf6 34.Rxd7+-)* 33.Nxe1 Qa4-+ *(33...bxc5?* is the wrong capture. *34.Nf6+* Discovered Attack *Bxf6 35.Rxd7+-)*]
[32.Nf6+? Bxf6 33.Rxd7 Rxe1+ 34.Nxe1 Nxd7-+]
32...Rxe1+ 33.Rxe1 Qb5 34.bxc5 Qxc5 35.Na4 Qb4 36.Nxb2 Qxb2 Endgame. We reach an ending somewhat reminiscent of the famous Carlsen-Nepo Wch Game 6, but here White lacks passed pawn potential and Fedoseev holds without too much trouble. KQ-KRN **37.h4 Qb4 38.g3 Qc3 39.Re8+ Kg7 40.Ng5 Qc1+ 41.Kg2 Qc6+ 42.Re4 Qd5 43.Kh2 Qa2 44.Nh3 Qc2 45.Re1 Qd2 46.Ra1 Qb2 47.Rf1 Qe2 48.Kg1 Qg4 49.Ng5 Qb4 50.Rd1 Qa4 51.Rc1 Qa2 52.Nh3 Qd2 53.Rc7+ Kh6 54.Rf7 Qd5 55.Rf4 Qd1+ 56.Kh2 Kg7 57.Ng5 Qd6 58.Rf7+ Kg8 59.Ra7 Qb6 60.Ra2 Kg7** White is slightly better. **61.Re2 Kh6 62.Nh3 Qa7 63.Re5 Qd4 64.Rg5 Kh7 65.Kg1 Qa1+ 66.Kg2 Qa8+**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
½-½

E03
□ **Yu,Yangyi** **2729**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
23rd Open 2023 (8.1) 03.06.2023
[Raven Sturt]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 dxc4 5.Qa4+ A new move for our site.
[Just in April of this year we focused on several tabiyas in the Catalan after 5.Bg2]
5...Nbd7 6.Qxc4
[6.Bg2 Was tried successfully by Le last year against Duda in the Crypto cup. a6 7.Qxc4 b5 8.Qd3 Bb7 9.0-0 c5 10.a4 *(10.dxc5!* Was White's last chance to hold equality. *)* 10...cxd4 11.axb5 axb5 12.Rxa8 Qxa8 13.Na3?! *(13.Bf4!* When White is only slightly worse.*)* 13...Bxa3 *(13...Bc5!∓)* 14.bxa3 e5 15.Qxb5 Black's center is impressive at first glance and that intuition is indeed correct. 0-0 should have given Black a pleasant edge. Bb7-a6 and

Rf8-b8 or Rf8-c8 offer him a nice initiative.]

6...a6 7.Bg2 b5 8.Qb3?!

[8.Qc6! Gives a slightly dubious impression but doesn't risk too much. Rb8 9.Bf4 Nd5 10.Bg5 *(10.0-0 Nxf4 11.gxf4 Bd6* Only Black can be better after Bc8-b7 and c7-c5.*)* 10...Be7 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.Nc3

A) 12...Qb4!? 13.0-0 Nxc3 14.bxc3 *(14.Qxc3 Qxc3 15.bxc3 Bb7* Black again has no problems.*)* 14...Qd6∞;

B) 12...Bb7 13.Nxd5 Bxc6 14.Nxe7 Kxe7

B1) 15.Rc1!? seems like a better try. Bxf3 *(15...Bd5!* was necessary to hold the balance. Taking the pawn allows Black a good initiative. *16.Rxc7 Rhc8⇄)* 16.Bxf3± Rhc8 17.Bc6 And the c6 outpost offers White a slight edge.;

B2) 15.0-0 Bxf3 16.Bxf3= was Laznicka -- Navara, 1/2, 2020.]

[8.Qd3 Would have also been better, when things transpose to that Le -- Duda game in that last note.]

8...Bb7 After this the computer is certain White is just worse, quite the poor opening outcome for the first player! **9.a4 c5!** Thematic and strong. White can't win b5 due to the zwischenzug of ...c5-c4. **10.axb5 c4!∓** White's position is just sad. It is clear things have gone wrong when he has to make so many backward moves with the queen. **11.Qd1 axb5 12.Rxa8 Qxa8** Black's queenside is impressive and compared to thematic positions White is down a few tempi. **13.0-0 Qa1 14.Nfd2?**

[14.Nc3!∓ would have kept the disadvantage manageable.]

14...Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Bb4 16.Qc2 0-0 17.Nc3 Qa6 Black's play is very simple. He will place his rook somewhere on the queenside and gradually expand there. White hasn't a sliver of counterplay. **18.Nf3 Qb7 19.Bg5 Ra8 20.Rb1 Bf8 21.b3 cxb3 22.Rxb3 b4 23.Bxf6?!**

[23.Qd3! was the last chance to hold on.]

23...Nxf6-+ Erigaisi went on to win a good game. An opening gone awry for White but kudos to Erigaisi on the good technique. **24.Nb1 Rc8 25.Qd3 g5 26.h3 h5 27.d5 g4 28.hxg4 hxg4 29.Ne5 Nxd5 30.e4 Nf6 31.Nd2 Rc1 32.Qe3 Rc5 33.Nd3 Rb5 34.Kg1 Qb6 35.Qe2 Qd4 36.e5 Nd7 37.Ne4 Nxe5 38.Nxe5 Qxe5 39.Qxg4+ Bg7 40.Qf3 Rb8 41.Kg2 f5 42.Ng5 Qd5 43.Kf1 Qxf3 44.Nxf3 Bc3 45.Ng5 e5 46.g4 fxg4 47.Ne4 Bd4 48.Ke2 Kf7 49.Kd3 Ke6 50.Kc4 Rc8+ 51.Kd3 Bc3 52.Rb1 Rd8+ 53.Ke3 Bd4+ 54.Ke2 Rb8 55.Rb3 Kd5 56.Nd2 Rf8 57.f3 g3 58.Kf1 Bc3**

0-1

B78

□ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi 2731**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2701**

PRO League KO 2023 rapid (3.4) 14.5.23

[Chris Ward,Kitty Kat]

B78: Sicilian Dragon: Yugoslav Attack, 9 Bc4 Bd7 10 0-0-0 Rc8

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.0-0-0 Rc8 11.Nxc6 And there's that move again but making its debut on the site for the first time in this particular position. To be fair

Black has three plausible ways to recapture but whereas ...bxc6 might be automatic in other scenarios where White can't then flick in e4-e5, the whole bringing the rook to the (once) half-open c-file is basically time wasted and arguably detrimental. In addition of course, White's light-squared bishop would not require withdrawal either. As the pawn would control the d5-square, I wouldn't rule that out but with the rook recapture immediately hitting the bishop, the talented Indian's choice feels like a reasonable middle ground!

[Relevant to my comments to Black's 12th move in this game, 11.Bb3 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 is of course the Topalov System where in some hopefully useful Maths, amongst the main 4 moves, 13.Nd5 is played 57% of the time, 13 h4 19% of the time, 13 Bxa7 appears 14% with 13 e5 just 10%.]

11...Bxc6 The bishop controls the d5-square with the option for a discovered attack against its opposite number with the d7-square vacated for the knight too.

12.Bb3 The natural retreat that deals with the just hinted at threat of ...Bxe4.

[12.Bxa7 b6 13.e5 Nd7 14.exd6 e6∓]

12...a5 Here basically is the split in plans for Black. The text looks to put the bishop to good use by bringing ...a4 to the party but of course as in the game he must be prepared for White to immediately halt this pawn himself. The other move which suggests itself is

[12...b5!? 0.50/20 12...a5 0.14 which the eagle-eyed amongst you may have noticed is just a Topalov System but with White's bishop on e3 rather than d4 and Black's bishop on c6 rather than d7. With that comparison in mind, it strikes me that the 57% 13 Nd5 move is off the table as a threat given Black can simply trade it for his bishop (currently on c6 rather than d7!) whilst 13 e5 is poor. I think the race is looking okay for Black after 13 h4 a5 and that then goes some way to explaining why practical play has seen 13.Bxa7 b4 when 14.Nd5 Nxd5! 15.exd5 Qa5!

A) Upon 16.Be3 -0.46/24 16.dxc6 0.27 Ba4 will bring forth plenty of a-file pressure.;

B) Note 16.Bd4 Bxd5! 17.Bxg7? -4.25/21 *(White should play 17.Qg5∓ -0.56/22 Rc5 18.Qe3 Bxb3 19.Qxb3 Bxd4 20.Rxd4)* 17...Bxb3 would be winning for Black.;

C) 16.dxc6 Qxa7 has occurred in practice e. g. 17.Qxb4 Rxc6 18.Rhe1! Ra6 *(18...e6* (looking to get in ...d5) *19.Rxd6 Qe7! 20.Rd4! Qg5+ 21.f4 Qxg2 22.Rd2!* would also be imbalanced fun. Black's kingside is rock solid whilst it will be difficult for White to advance his big queenside pawn majority with so many pieces on.*)* 19.Rd5 with clear half-open files, Dragon bishop etc. compensation for the pawn in Paravyan,D (2601)-Zakhartsov,V (2547) Sochi RUS 2023.]

13.a4 Obviously making it more difficult to get in ...b5 though this weakens the b4-square and the bishop position on b3.

13...Qe8! **14.Qe2** White is slightly better.

[Preventing the ...b5 break which given say 14.h4 -0.01/22 14.Qe2 0.43 b5 15.axb5 Bxb5 16.h5 -1.03/21 *(*Better is *16.Bh6∓* -0.44/21 *Bxh6*

17.Qxh6) 16...a4!∓ 17.Ba2 a3 seems like a reasonable decision. Nevertheless important to see then would be. ...axb2+ would now be deadly. 18.hxg6 -1.33/21 *(18.Bd4∓* -0.68/21 *)* 18...axb2+∓ 19.Kb1 Bc4! *(*Rather than *19...hxg6?* 3.44/21 19...Bc4 -1.76 *20.Bh6!* with massive h-file problems. *)*]

14...Nd7 Again very logical, aiming the steed for c5 with the option there too to take on c3. **15.h4 Nc5**

[Hitting the bishop but specifically threatening to take on a4, Having moved the knight from f6, personally I wouldn't fancy 15...h5 0.87/22 15...Nc5 0.15 16.g4!]

16.Bxc5

[16.h5 -0.45/22 16.Bxc5 0.47 Nxb3+ 17.cxb3 b5 clearly leaves chances for both sides. Black obviously has some queenside action whilst although his own king is without the defensive knight, the white queen being on e2 rather than d2 slows things down a little.]

16...dxc5 17.e5!↑ Blunting the Dragon bishop and reclaiming some dark-squared control must be the way forward given an h-file mate would no longer be swift. White has the initiative.

17...e6 Despite my last comment, if White gets in h4-h5 and e5-e6, that would be tricky and hence the text blunting White's bishop. **18.f4N** With the idea h5.

[18.Bc4 Rd8 19.Bb5 Qe7 20.Bxc6 bxc6 21.f4 Classical Dragon-5...g6 6. Be3,7]

18...Qe7 19.Nb5 -0.08/23

[19.Ne4 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 c4 21.Bxc4 Qb4 22.Bd3 aiming for Qxb4. Qxe4! 23.Bxe4 Rc4 24.Rhe1 Rxa4 perhaps seems likely to end in a draw but Black still has two pieces to try and activate whilst control of the d-file should count for something for White.]

[19.Ne4± 0.50/22]

19...Rcd8?! 0.98/20

[Far from ridiculous looking but 19...Bh6! challenges White to protect his f-pawn whilst there is still some appeal in the]

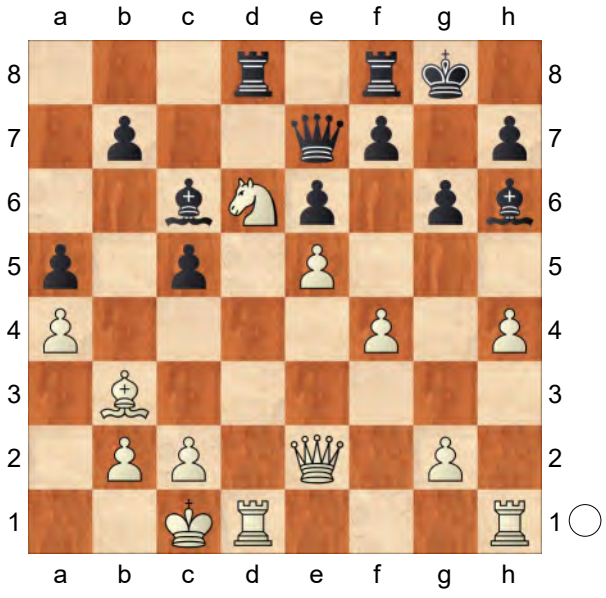
[19...c4!? 20.Bxc4 And now Nd6 would win. Qb4 sacrifice]

[19...Bxb5 is a bit grovelly with 20.Qxb5 , leaving the white queen bossing, hitting the a5-pawn as well as the d7-square.]

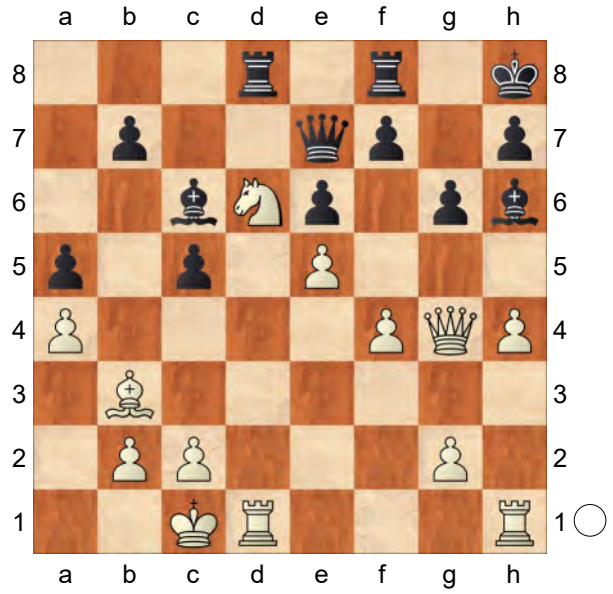
[19...c4= -0.08/23 remains equal. 20.Bxc4 *(20.Qxc4? Bxg2 21.Qd4 Bxh1-+)* 20...Qb4]

20.Nd6!± Clearly where the knight was aiming with it not being so easy to undermine the supporting e5-pawn. Threatens to win with h5. White now steadily converts the win. **20...Bh6** 1.60/21

[Black should try 20...h5 0.92/20]



Alas too late. **21.Qg4!** Not possible previously as Black could have taken the knight which was then on b5. White has more active pieces. **21...Kh8**



22.Kb1! Unpinning the f-pawn and just generally useful. Hoping for h5. **22...f6** 2.94/21

[Given what Black could have played 22...f5 immediately but White still has a clear advantage.]

[⌓22...f5 1.66/22 23.Qg3 c4 24.Bxc4 *(24.Nxc4 b5+-)* 24...Bxa4]

23.h5+-

[23.Bxe6 f5 24.Bxf5 gxf5 25.Nxf5 Bd7 26.Rxd7 Qxd7 27.Nxh6 Qxg4 *(27...Qxa4 28.e6±)* 28.Nxg4 Rxf4∓]

23...f5 24.Qg3 g5 At least keeping the h-file closed. **25.fxg5 f4**

[Or 25...Bxg5? 3.67/20 25...f4 1.89 26.Bxe6! with Qxe6 27.Qxg5 Qxe5? 12.32/25 *(27...Bd5 3.67/21 28.Rhf1 h6)* 28.Qxd8! Rxd8 29.Nf7+ rather visual!]

26.Qg4 Bxg5 3.94/20

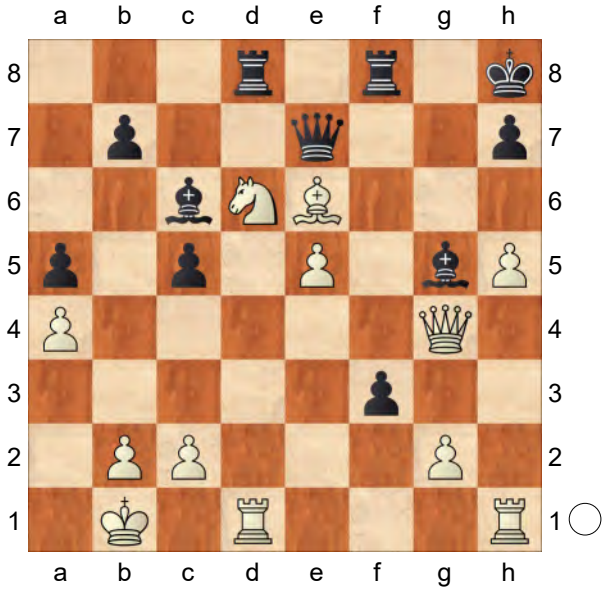
[⌓26...c4 2.62/21 27.Bxc4 *(27.gxh6 cxb3 28.cxb3 f3+-)* 27...Qxg5 28.Bxe6 *(28.Qxe6 Rd7±)* 28...Qxg4 29.Bxg4 Bg5]

27.Bxe6 With the black queen overloaded, now Nf7+ is threatened.

[27.Qxe6 f3+-]

27...f3 5.50/21

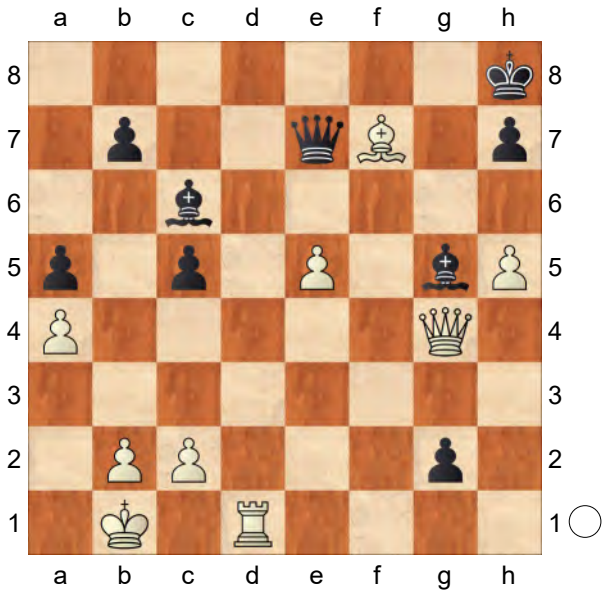
[⌓27...Rb8 3.90/21 28.Nf7+ Rxf7]



28.Nf7+! Played anyway! Discovered Attack, Deflection **28...Rxf7 29.Rxd8+**

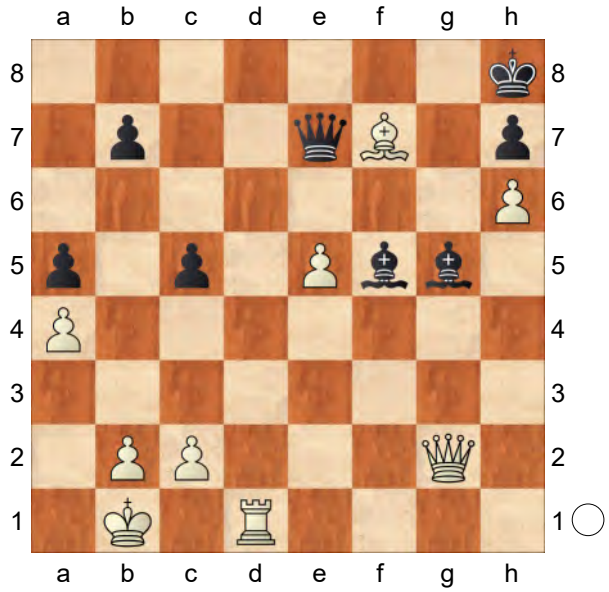
[Not 29.Bxf7 Qxf7 30.Qxg5 Rg8+-]

29...Qxd8 30.Bxf7 fxg2 31.Rd1 Black's g-pawn is well monitored allowing him to press on. **31...Qe7**



32.h6! A nice touch creating serious

back-rank problems for Black. **32...Bd7**
[32...c4 33.Qc8+]
33.Qxg2 11.02/20
[More than adequate although 33.Rxd7 g1Q+ 34.Qxg1 Qxd7 35.Qxg5 Qxf7 36.Qd8+ Qg8 37.Qf6+ was nicer!]
[⌓33.Rxd7 #6/14 g1Q+ 34.Qxg1 Qxd7 35.Qxg5 Qd1+ 36.Ka2 Qd5+ 37.Bxd5 b6 38.Qg8#]
33...Bf5

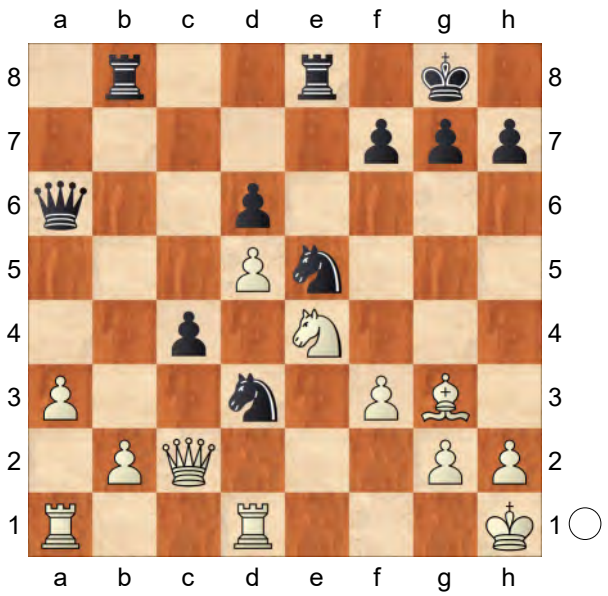


34.e6! c4
[34...Qf6 35.Qg3]
35.Rg1 Now mate is coming down the g-file.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.93
1-0

E20

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Kramnik,Vladimir** **2753**
Astana Satty Zhuldyz Blitz (9) 24.04.23
[Kitty Kat]

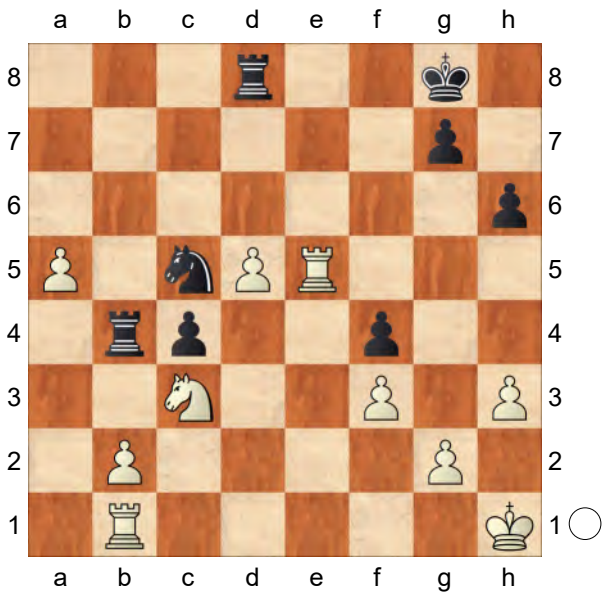
E20: Nimzo-Indian: 4 g3 and 4 f3
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 c5 5.d5 b5 6.e4! d6 7.cxb5 exd5 8.exd5 Black has an edge. **8...0-0** Threatening ...Rf8-e8+. **9.Bd3!**
[9.Nge2 Re8 10.Kf2 Nbd7 11.a3 Ba5 12.g3 Ne5 13.Bf4 Bf5 14.Bxe5 Rxe5 15.h4 Qe7 16.Qa4 Bb6 17.Qc4 Bd3 18.Qa2 c4+ 19.Kg2 Bxe2 20.Nxe2 Rxe2+ 21.Kh3 Qd7+ 22.g4 Re3 23.Kg2 Rxf3 N,N (2091)-Hlavac,I (2599) Gibtelecom Masters 2007 (1) 0-1]
9...a6 10.Nge2 Qb6N
[10...axb5 11.Bxb5 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.0-0 Re8 14.Bg5 h6 15.Bh4 c4 16.Nd4 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Nc7 18.Nc6 Qd7 19.Bxf6 gxf6 20.Qd4 Qf5 21.Nb4 Re2 22.Qxc4 Rae8 23.Qg4+ Qxg4 24.fxg4 Nb5 25.Rf3 6.♘a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2750)-Farionov,A (2581) Merida 2000 (11) 1-0]
11.a3
[11.bxa6 Nbd7 12.Bf4 Re8 13.Kf1 Ne5 14.Bb5 Bxa6 15.a4 0-1 (34) Delgado Romero,M (2282)-Hamidov,A (1530) Lichess.org INT 2022 Bxb5 16.axb5 Rxa1 17.Qxa1 Bxc3 18.Nxc3]
11...axb5 ...c5-c4 is the strong threat. is recently more successful than 11...c5. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 11...c5.
12.Bxb5 Bxc3+ 0.37/21
[12...c4= 0.00/24 feels stronger.]
13.Nxc3± Ba6 14.Bxa6 Qxa6 15.Kf2 Nbd7 16.Qc2 Ne5 17.Rd1N Prevents Ne5-d3+ **17...Rfe8 18.Bf4 Nfd7 19.Kg1 c4 20.Ne4** 0.01/20
[20.Bg3± 0.48/23 is superior.]
20...Nd3= 21.Bg3
[21.Bxd6? Rxe4 *(21...f5? 22.Nc5-+)* 22.Bg3 Rd4-+]
21...N7e5! A dynamic duo of knights.
22.Kh1 Rab8
(Diagram)



...f7-f5 would now be deadly. Black has compensation. **23.Rab1 h6 24.h3 f5 25.Nc3 Qb6 26.Rd2 Qb3** 0.45/23
[26...Qd4= 0.00/22]
27.a4 Qxc2 28.Rxc2 Rb4 29.Bh2 Nc5 1.37/25 **30.Re1** 0.60/22
[30.Nb5± 1.37/25 Rd8 31.Nd4 *(31.Nxd6 Rxd6 32.Bxe5 Rxd5=)* 31...Rxa4 32.Bxe5 *(32.Nxf5 Ncd3±)* 32...dxe5 33.Nxf5]
30...Ncd3± 31.Rb1 Nc5 1.25/25 White now steadily converts the win.
[31...Ra8= 0.22/23]
32.Re2 aiming for f3-f4. **32...Ra8** 2.09/21
[32...Nxa4? too greedy. 33.Nxa4 Rxa4 34.f4+-]
[32...Kf7± 1.26/24 was necessary.]
33.Bxe5+- dxe5 34.Rxe5 Rd8 3.40/23
[34...Nd3 1.87/22 was called for. 35.Re7 *(35.Rxf5 Ra6+-)* 35...Ra6]
35.a5
[But not 35.Rxf5 Nxa4 36.Nxa4 Rxa4]
35...f4

(Diagram)

36.d6! Nd3



[36...Na6 37.Rd1]
37.Rd5 Kf7 White is clearly winning. **38.a6 Ke6 39.Ra1 Kd7 40.a7 Ra8 41.Nb5 Rxb2 42.Nc7 Rxa7 43.Rxa7** Nc7-b5+ would kill now. **43...Rb1+ 44.Kh2 Nf2 45.g4** White threatens Nc7-a6+ and mate. **45...Nd3 46.Nb5+** Predecessor: **46...Ke6 47.Nc3 Rb2+ 48.Kg1**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.29 (precise)
1-0

C65
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2730**
Sigeman & Co 28th_1796 (4) 07.05.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bb6 8.Ba4 8.Na3 is the modern continuation .8.Sa3 ist die moderne Fortsetzung. **8...0-0 9.Bg5** The position is equal. **9...h6 10.Bh4 d6 11.h3 g5N**

[11...c6 12.Nd2 d5 13.exd5 cxd5 14.Re1 Bc7 15.Nf3 g5 16.Bg3 e4 17.Bxc7 Qxc7 18.Nd4 a6 19.dxe4 dxe4 20.Qd2 b5 21.Bb3 Rd8 22.Rad1 Bb7 23.Qe3 Qe5 24.f3 Re8 25.fxe4 Qxe4 26.Qf2 13.♕c2 ♘e5 14.♗e5 (2586)-Kunz,H (2501) Budapest Vezerkepzo Christmas GM 2022 (2.3) 1-0]

12.Bg3 c6N

[Predecessor: 12...Kh7 13.Nd2 g4 14.Bh4 Black should prevent Kh2. Rg8! 15.Kh2! Threatens to win with f4. Rg6! 16.f4 Qe2 would now be deadly. Be3 And now ...gxh3 would win. 17.f5 Rg7 18.g3 gxh3 19.Bxf6 Qxf6 Gudmundsson,E (2504)-Grigoryev,V (2500) RUS-Nordic email 2017 [2] ½-½]

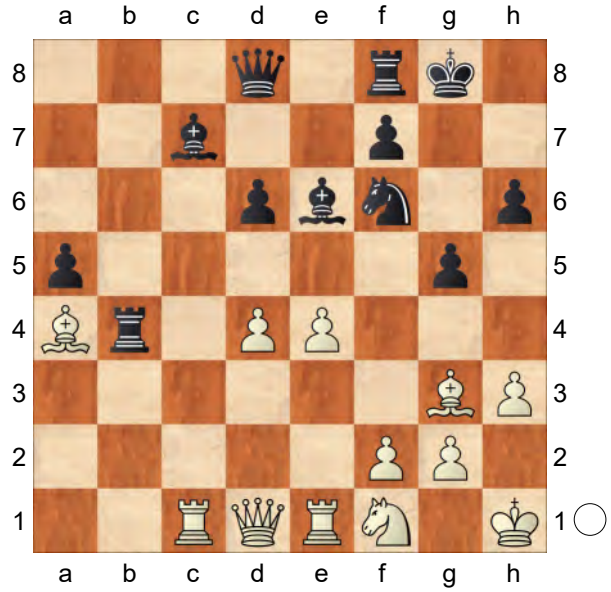
13.Nd2 Be6 14.Bc2 Re8 15.Kh1 Bc7 16.d4 b5 17.a4 a5 18.Re1 Rb8 19.axb5 cxb5 20.Nf1 b4 21.Ba4! Rf8 22.Rc1 0.30/20

[22.Kg1± 0.67/19]

22...bxc3= 23.bxc3 exd4 1.14/20

[23...Rb2± 0.35/18]

24.cxd4± Rb4



25.d5 0.87/20

[⌓25.Bc6! 1.29/19]

25...Bc8 26.Qc2 0.09/19 White is more active.

[Better is 26.Bc2± 0.78/19]

26...Bb6= 27.e5 dxe5 28.Bxe5 Strongly threatening Bb3. **28...Bd4** 0.51/20

[28...Nxd5 29.Bb3±]

[28...g4= -0.17/20]

29.Bxd4± Rxd4 30.Bb3

[30.Ne3 simplifies Nxd5 31.Bb3 Nf4 32.Bxf7+ Rxf7 33.Qxc8 Nd3 34.Nf5]

30...Nxd5

[30...Qd6 simplifies 31.Ra1 a4 32.Rxa4 Rxa4 33.Bxa4 Nxd5 34.Bb3 Qc7]

31.Qc6 -0.07/21 Prevents Qf6.

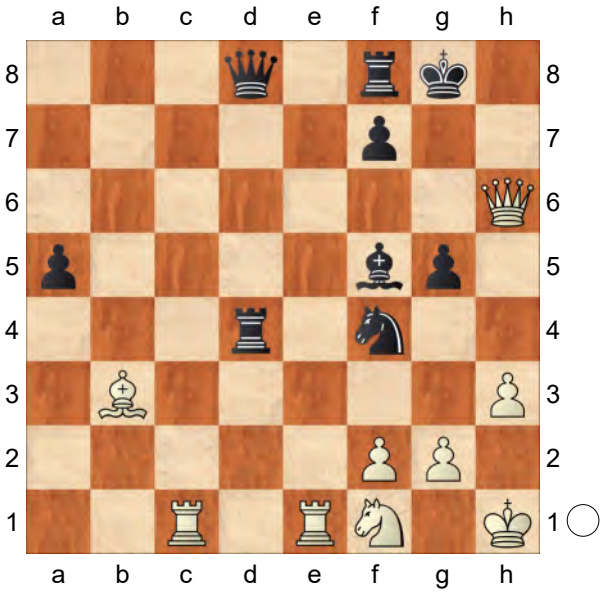
[31.Rcd1!± 0.41/22 Nf4 32.Bxf7+ Rxf7 33.Rxd4 Qxd4 34.Re8+ *(34.Qxc8+ Kg7±)* 34...Kg7 35.Rxc8]

31...Nf4 0.78/22

[31...a4= -0.07/21 keeps the balance. 32.Bxa4 Nf4]

32.Qxh6± Bf5!

[32...Rd6 33.Bxf7+ Rxf7 34.Rxc8 Rxh6 35.Rxd8+ Rf8 36.Rxf8+ Kxf8 37.Re5±]



33.Rc6 Inhibits Rd6. **33...Rd3?** 7.56/23 A mistake that costs the game.
[33...Be4? 34.Rf6 Bxg2+ 35.Kh2+-]
[33...Nxh3± 0.59/20 34.gxh3 Rh4 35.Rg6+ Bxg6 36.Qxg6+ Kh8]
34.Re5+- White is clearly winning.
[34.Rf6 Rxb3 35.Qxg5+ *(35.Rxf5? Rxh3+ 36.Qxh3 Nxh3-+)* 35...Bg6 36.Qxf4 Rb6 37.Rxb6 Qxb6±]
34...Rxb3 35.Rxf5 f6 36.Rxf4
[36.Rfxf6? is the wrong capture. Rxh3+ 37.Qxh3 *(37.gxh3?* gets mated. *Qd5+ 38.f3 Qxf3+ 39.Kh2 Qg2#)* 37...Nxh3-+]
[Less strong is 36.Rcxf6 Rxf6 37.Qxg5+ *(37.Rxf6? Rxh3+ 38.Qxh3 Nxh3-+)* 37...Kf7±]
36...gxf4 37.Qg6+ Kh8 38.Rc5
Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.19 (very precise)
1-0

B40
□ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2745**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
Satty Zhuldyz Blitz 2023 (4.3) 24.04.2023
[Daniel Fernandez]

1.e4
[I feel compelled to include some comments on a line I played in the past with similar patterns, definitely thematically but also psychologically. 1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.Nf3 e4 4.Nd4 *(4.Ne5?! Nxe5 5.Bxe5* and now even *h5!?∓* is decidedly unpleasant for White.*)* 4...Qf6 *(4...Nf6* was played by my opponent in Fernandez,D-Hawkins,J Cardiff 2014, after about half an hour of considering calling my bluff!*)* 5.e3 Bc5 In this version, White is best off not supporting the d4-knight a second time. 6.Nc3! *(6.c3 Nge7* is at least equal for Black since the e4-pawn exerts a cramping influence.*)* 6...Nxd4 7.Nd5 Nf3+ *(7...Qd6 8.exd4 Qxd5 9.dxc5→)* 8.gxf3 Qxb2 9.Nxc7+ Kf8 10.Nxa8± With complications that are great fun to analyse (and slightly better for White) but this is not the place.]
1...c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.b3 b6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 The jury is out on whether I should really be claiming this position as 'mine', but due to the 3.b3 (and overall rarity of White fianchettoing the queen's bishop in non-Maroczy Open Sicilians) I think it's fair enough. **5...Bb7** There was another recent game that followed the same path, and the choice of which one to use as the stem was not simple: 2700's, or 'better' opening play?! **6.Bd3** I'm not so sure this will gain many supporters, while the alternative actually might.
[The initially clunky-looking 6.Nd2!? anticipates the challenge in the next note, and a transposition to later on in the main game is quite likely (White can typically proceed with Bd3 next move). But it seems like Black can go for it anyway, provided they are willing to snatch a very hot pawn. Bc5 7.Bb2 Qf6 8.Nc4! Qh4 *(8...Bxe4?! 9.Qd2!±* is very slow for Black, and it doesn't look like there's any acceptable defence to the idea of Nb5 next.*)* 9.Be2 Bxe4 For someone who was probably surprised by the opening, Black's reaction was excellent. 10.0-0 *(10.Qd2 Nc6 11.0-0-0 Nf6⇄)* 10...Nf6 11.Nb5 0-0 12.Nc7 d5! 13.Nd2 Nc6! *(13...Bd6?? 14.g3 Qh3 15.Nxe4 Bxc7 16.Nxf6+ gxf6*

17.c4+- Winning back a pawn due to the Bf3 ideas, and also bearing in mind White's raking bishops it's not a surprise Black never really got another chance in Erdos,V-Dotzer,L Mali Losinj 2023*.)* 14.Nxa8 Rxa8 15.g3 Qh3 16.Nxe4 dxe4 17.Bxf6 gxf6⩲ Black probably has fair compensation here, though it still needs to be proved.]

6...Nc6 It feels harsh to give such a move the dubious mark, but in reality White's opening advantage is not in doubt after it.

[6...Bc5!? is the principled path. 7.Bb2 *(7.Be3 d5⇄; 7.Nf3* is safer but clearly fine for Black. *Nf6 8.Nbd2 Nc6 9.a3!?* Buyandalai,T-Lock,G Uxbridge 2010 *Qc7⇄)* 7...Qf6 If not for this move, there is little point challenging quite so ardently on the previous move. But this calls White's bluff. 8.c3 Nc6 9.0-0 *(9.Na3 Nxd4 10.cxd4 Bxd4 11.Bxd4 Qxd4 12.0-0 a6∓* fails to convince*;* I don't think anyone really wants to play moves like *9.Bc2* , and almost anything is OK for Black here. *Ba6!? 10.Qd2 Rc8∓* Jones,G-Khairullin,I Belfort 2005 incidentally your columnist was also playing this event in the under-10's!*)* 9...Nxd4 10.b4!N The only way White gets good play against 7...Qf6, but Black still has a good choice between snatching the pawn on b4 (likely not very practical) or bailing out with Nf3+ 11.Qxf3 Qxf3 12.gxf3 Bd6= into an ending with almost no chance of being worse.]

7.Nxc6 Bxc6

[It pays to keep an eye out for funky possibilities like 7...Qf6 , but here this doesn't really question the concept. 8.Be3!? Bxc6 *(8...Qxa1?? 9.Bd4 Qxa2 10.Nc3 Qa3 11.Nb5+-* is the point, forking the queen and mate! *)* 9.Nd2 Bb4 10.0-0±]

8.Bb2 Nf6 9.Qe2

[9.Nd2 also sufficed for an advantage in a high level game, especially after Black compliantly shut in the king's bishop. d6 *(9...d5!* improves, but probably not by enough. White can play the Rubinstein structure with the simple exd5, or try a variety of other thematic 'French' approaches. *10.e5 Ne4 11.Qe2 Nc5 12.h4!?↑)* 10.Qe2± Vachier Lagrave,M-Van Wely, L Dubai 2014]

9...Bc5 10.Nd2 0-0 11.0-0-0 Qe7 12.Kb1± The opening phase is complete and it should be obvious from experience that White's attacking chances are preferable, as well as that the middlegame is liable to become rather complicated. **12...Ba3 13.Ba1 a5 14.g4 a4 15.g5 Ne8 16.Nc4 Bc5 17.f4 f6 18.h4 d6 19.Rh2 axb3 20.cxb3 Qb7 21.Qg4 Qf7 22.h5 f5 23.exf5 exf5 24.Qg3 Qa7 25.Ne3 Be4 26.Bxe4 fxe4 27.Nd5 e3 28.Nxe3 Qe7 29.Nd5 Qe6 30.h6 Qe4+ 31.Qd3 Qxd3+ 32.Rxd3 g6 33.b4 Ra4 34.bxc5 bxc5 35.Re2**
1-0

D35

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2731**
Chessable Masters Div 2 Win rapid (2.2)
[Kitty Kat]

D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation
In chapter 20, we'll be covering h3

instead of the h4 , which we checked in the previous chapter. This is a very significant main line too, chosen by Magnus, Erigaisi & Abdusattarov. However, I think my novelty on move 11 poses some serious questions to white players. **1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 Bb4 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 g5 8.Bg3 Ne4 9.Nge2 h5** The position is equal. **10.h3 Nc6 11.Bh2 Qf6** 0.53/19

[Better is 11...g4= -0.01/17]

12.f3± Nxc3 13.Nxc3 Bf5N 14.Bb5 0-0-0 15.0-0 -0.01/18

[15.Qb3± 0.49/19]

15...Bd6!= 16.Bxd6 Qxd6 17.Bxc6

[17.Qa4 keeps more tension. g4 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.e4]

17...Qxc6 18.Rc1 Kb8! 19.Qb3 -0.77/20

[19.Qe2∓ -0.31/18]

19...Qd7 -0.01/20

[Black should play 19...Rhe8∓ -0.77/20 20.Ne2 *(20.Nb5 Qb6∓)* 20...Qg6]

20.Na4

[20.Nxd5 simplifies Qxd5 21.Qxd5 Rxd5 22.e4]

20...Qd6!

[20...Bxh3? 21.Nc5 Qc6 22.gxh3+-]

21.Rf2 -0.89/19

[21.Rc3= -0.18/20 remains equal.]

21...Rhe8∓ 22.Rc3 Bc8

[22...Re7 simplifies 23.Qa3 Rde8 24.Qxd6 cxd6 25.Rc1 Rxe3 26.Nc3 Rd3]

23.Nc5 Re7 24.Qa4 g4 25.fxg4 -1.53/21

[⌓25.Ra3 -0.77/21 a6 26.fxg4]

25...hxg4 26.hxg4 -2.42/20

[26.Qb4∓ -1.45/20 was worth a try. Ka8 *(26...gxh3 27.Na6+* Pin *Ka8 28.Nxc7+ Qxc7 29.Rfc2±)* 27.Nd3 *(27.hxg4 Rh8∓)*]

26...Rh8-+ And now ...Qh2+ would win.

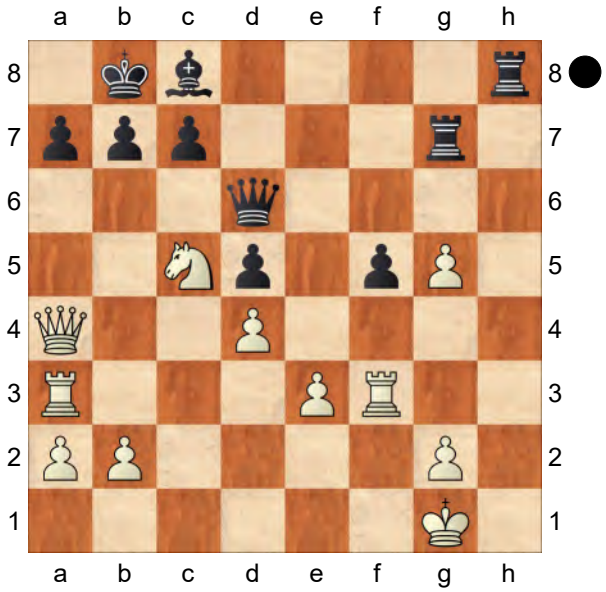
[26...Bxg4? 27.Ra3 c6 28.Qxa7+ Kc8 29.Qb6+-]

27.Rf3 f5 28.g5 -2.62/24

[28.gxf5? Qh2+ 29.Kf1 *(29.Kf2? Rg7-+)* 29...Rg7-+]

[⌓28.Ra3 -1.79/22 a6 *(28...fxg4 29.Qxa7#)* 29.Qb4]

28...Rg7 29.Ra3



a6 Black has strong compensation.

[29...Rxg5 30.Qxa7#]

[29...Qh2+ 30.Kf2 a6 *(30...Rxg5 31.Qxa7#)* 31.Qb4=]

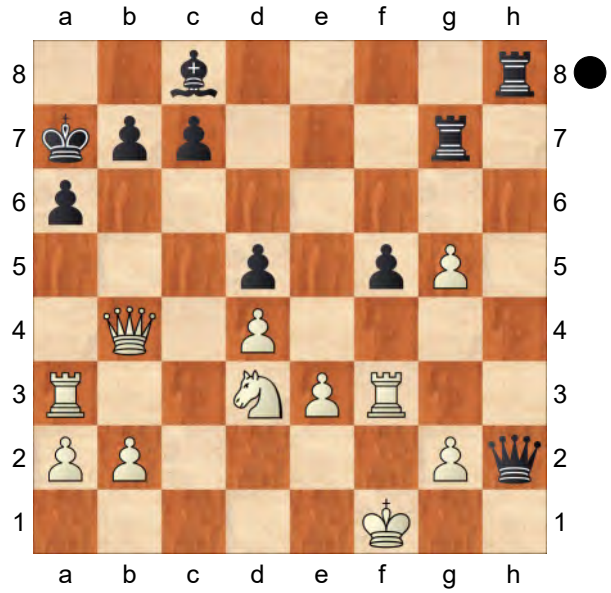
30.Qb4 Ka7

[30...Rxg5? 31.Nxa6++- *(31.Rxa6 Qh2+ 32.Kf2 Qxg2+ 33.Ke1 Rh1+; 31.Rxa6 Qh2+ 32.Kf2 Qxg2+ 33.Ke1 Rh1+)*]

[30...Qh2+ 31.Kf2 b6 *(31...Rxg5 32.Nxa6+ Ka8 33.Nxc7+ Kb8 34.Na6+ Ka8 35.Nc7+ Kb8 36.Na6+ Ka8 37.Nc5+ Kb8 38.Na6+=)* 32.Nxa6+ Bxa6 33.Rxa6 Rxg5 34.Rxb6+ cxb6 35.Qxb6+ Kc8 36.Qe6+ Kb8 37.Qb6+ Ka8 38.Qa6+ Kb8 39.Qb6+=]

31.Nd3 Qxd6 would now be deadly.

31...Qh2+
[31...Rxg5 32.Qxd6 cxd6 33.Kf2±]
32.Kf1



Qh1+! Deflection
[32...Rxg5 33.Nf4∓]
33.Ke2 f4 -0.80/20 Dodges Rg3
[33...Rxg5 34.Nf4 Rxg2+ 35.Nxg2 Qxg2+ 36.Rf2∓]
[33...Qxg2+-+ -2.54/19 is more deadly. 34.Rf2 Qxg5]
34.Nxf4? -3.52/23 White does not recover from this.
[34.exf4∓ -0.80/20 was forced. Qxg2+ 35.Rf2 Re8+ 36.Kd2]
34...Bg4 Pin
[34...Rxg5? 35.Qe1 Bg4 36.Qxh1 Rxh1 *(36...Bxf3+ 37.Kxf3 Rxh1 38.Rc3∓)* 37.Rc3∓]
35.Qc5+ Kb8 36.Qxd5 -6.25/23
[36.Rc3 -3.74/23 Rf7 *(36...Bxf3+ 37.Kxf3 Qf1+ 38.Kg4∓)* 37.Kf2 *(37.Qxd5? Rxf4-+* Remove Defender*)* 37...Bxf3 38.Kxf3 Qh5+ 39.Kf2 Qxg5 40.Ke2 Qg4+ 41.Kd2 Rxf4 *(41...Rh1? 42.Rc1-+)* 42.Qxc7+ Ka7 43.Qxf4 *(43.Qc5+? Ka8-+)* 43...Qxg2+ 44.Kd3]
36...Qb1
[36...Bxf3+ 37.Kxf3 Rhg8 38.Kg4∓]
37.Rc3 Repels Qc2+ **37...Rh1 38.Qb3** Repels Qd1+ **38...Re7** Strongly threatening ...Qf1+.
[38...Bxf3+ 39.Kxf3 Rxg5 40.Rc2-+]
39.Qc2 Qf1+ Pin
[39...Bxf3+ 40.Kxf3 Qxa2 41.d5±]
40.Kd2 Bxf3 41.gxf3 Rh2+ Skewer.
Weighted Error Value: White=1.07/ Black=0.27 (precise)
0-1

C47

□	**Erigaisi,Arjun**	**2722**
■	**Carlsen,Magnus**	**2859**
Tata Steel-A 85th (13)		29.01.2023

[Nielsen,Peter Heine]

The situation before the last round was clear, Magnus needed to win in order to have any chance of winning the tournament, as he was trailing Abdusattorov by a full point. Having the black pieces in general is not seem as ideal in such a scenario, but it is notheworthy that Magnus managed to in as many as 4 games with black in Wijk! Die Situation vor der letzten Runde war klar: Magnus musste gewinnen, um überhaupt noch eine Chance auf den Turniersieg zu haben, da er mit einem ganzen Punkt Rückstand auf Abdusattorov lag. Die schwarzen Figuren zu haben, scheint in einem solchen Szenario nicht ideal zu sein, aber es ist erwähnenswert, dass Magnus in Wijk nicht weniger als 4 Partien mit Schwarz gewinnen konnte! **1.e4 e5 2.Nc3** In a way a brave choice by Erigaisi, just aiming to play chess, rather than trying to force events by following long theorethical lines. But while the

young indians tournament took a turn for the worse in the latter half, his spirit for figthing chess always seemed to be there. In gewisser Weise war es eine mutige Entscheidung von Erigaisi, einfach nur Schach zu spielen, anstatt zu versuchen, die Ereignisse durch das Verfolgen langer theorethischer Varianten zu erzwingen. Aber während das Turnier des jungen Inders in der zweiten Hälfte eine Wendung zum Schlechteren nahm, schien sein Wille, Schach zu spielen, immer vorhanden zu sein. **2...Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.d4 exd4!?** The double-financhietto like this is a somewhat rare guest at top-level. The reason mainly is that it does only arise logically via the 1 Nf3 move-order as after 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 black sort of have to play 2...e6 before going 3...b6 next ,for a regulat Queens Indian. Thus perhaps the double fianchetto has not gained a lot of attention, but in Tiviakovs recent " Rock Solid Chess", the now Dutch Grandmaster gives an excellent overview of the strategical concept of the opening, by showing a number of his own games in the line. Apparantly in such an inspiring way, that even the World Champion decided to give it a try! Das Doppel-Financhietto wie dieses ist ein eher seltener Gast auf hohem Niveau. Das liegt vor allem daran, dass es sich nur logisch über die Zugfolge 1. Sf3 ergibt, da Schwarz nach 1 d4 Sf6 2 c4 gewissermaßen 2...e6 spielen muss, bevor er 3...b6 spielt, für ein reguläres Damenindisch. Deshalb hat das Doppelfianchetto vielleicht nicht viel Aufmerksamkeit erregt, aber in Tiviakovs kürzlich erschienenem 'Rock Solid Chess' gibt der jetzt niederländische Großmeister einen ausgezeichneten Überblick über das strategische Konzept der Eröffnung, indem er eine Reihe seiner eigenen Partien in dieser Linie zeigt. Offenbar auf eine so inspirierende Weise, dass sogar der Weltmeister beschloss, es zu versuchen! **5.Nd5 Nxe4 6.Qe2 f5 7.Bf4!?** One of the charming things with the system is that already here it is not obvious how white should react.
7 Nc3 perhaps looks like the logical move, but 7...Ne4 just leads to favaourable exchanges for black, and unlike the regular Queens-Indian black even as a bonus, opens the long diagonal with easy equality. Apart from the game-move, 7 Re1 is another critical move, played by Nakamura against Magnus in a later online game. Then it becomes a typical "waiting game, as after 7...e6 8 Bf4 d6 white avoids playing Nc3 not allowing ...Ne4, but here somehow it is white who runs out of useful moves first. 9 Qc2 perhaps being critical, but then black has 9...c5, made Nakamura play 9 Nbd2 but soon to be strategically worse.Eines der reizvollen Dinge an diesem System ist, dass schon hier nicht klar ist, wie Weiß reagieren soll.
7 Sc3 sieht vielleicht wie der logische Zug aus, aber 7...Se4 führt nur zu günstigem Abtausch für Schwarz, und im Gegensatz zum regulären Damenindisch öffnet Schwarz sogar als Bonus die lange Diagonale mit leichtem Ausgleicht. Abgesehen vom Partiezug ist 7 Te1 ein weiterer kritischer Zug, den Nakamura in einer späteren Online-Partie gegen Magnus spielte. Dann wird es ein typisches 'Wartespiel', denn nach 7...e6 8 Lf4 d6 vermeidet Weiß, Sc3 zu spielen, was ...Se4 nicht zulässt, aber

hier ist es irgendwie Weiß, dem zuerst die nützlichen Züge ausgehen. 9.Dc2 ist vielleicht kritisch, aber dann hat Schwarz 9...c5, was Nakamura dazu brachte, 9.Sbd2 zu spielen, wonach er aber bald strategisch schlechter stand. **7...d6** The logical move, and what Tiviakov recommends, even if the computers insists that after 7...b5 8 Qb3 Qc8 9 Qxb5 c6 black has very decent compensation for the sacrificed pawn. Der logische Zug, den Tiviakov empfiehlt, auch wenn der Computer darauf besteht, dass Schwarz nach 7...b5 8 Db3 Dc8 9 Dxb5 c6 eine sehr gute Kompensation für den geopferten Bauern hat. **8.0-0-0 Ne7** White logically managed to block the b7-bishop, but like this black again gets ready for ...Nfe4.Weiß hat es logischerweise geschafft, den b7-Läufer zu blockieren, aber so macht sich Schwarz wieder bereit für ...Sfe4.

[8...Be7?! 9.Nxd4 Nxd4? 10.Rxd4! While black's plan at first sight perhaps looks like ...g3, Magnus had a much stronger concept in mind. He cleared the 8th rank for his queen, to access the h3 square via h8. As white can't exchange on that square, as the black pawn then queens, it means that black now just penetrates on the kingside, the computers already giving the verdict: Black is winning. Während der schwarze Plan auf den ersten Blick vielleicht nach ...g3 aussieht, hatte Magnus ein viel stärkeres Konzept in petto. Er machte die achte Reihe für seine Dame frei, um über h8 auf das Feld h3 zu gelangen. Da Weiß auf diesem Feld nicht abtauschen kann, da dann der schwarze Bauer umwandelt, bedeutet dies, dass Schwarz nun einfach am Königsflügel eindringt, wobei die Computer bereits das Urteil verkünden: Schwarz gewinnt. 0-0 *(10...Bf6 11.Rxe4+ fxe4 12.Qxe4+ Kf8! 13.Bc4 Bg4* And as 57 Qc2 Qa3 and 57 Ka2 Bd1 leads to immediate mates, Erigaisi resigned.Und da 57. Dc2 Da3 und 57.Ka2 Ld1 zu sofortigem Matt führen, gab Erigaisi auf. *14.f3 Bh5 15.Rd1-+; 10...Be6 11.f3 Bxd5 12.Rxd5!? Nf6 13.Rxf5)* 11.f3 Bf6 Desperation, but inderstandable. Just sitting passively left zero chances.Verzweiflung, aber unverständlich. Einfach passiv dasitzen ließ null Chancen. 12.fxe4 Bxd4 13.Qc4 Bxb2+ 14.Kxb2! The piece has been won back, and black switches to solidity again, removing the knight from threat and aiming for the e5 square.Die Figur wurden zurückgewonnen, und Schwarz stellt wieder auf Solidität um, entfernt den Springer aus der Bedrohung und zielt auf das Feld e5. Rf7 15.Nc3 Qf6?! 48 Qa3 was the aboslute last chance, even if the endgame is obviously much better for black. 48 Qa3 war die absolut letzte Chance, auch wenn das Endspiel offensichtlich viel besser für Schwarz ist. 16.Kb1 Be6 17.Nd5! Allowing some checks, but they only add to blacks position and in no way harms black. Erlaubt einige Schachs, aber sie verbessern nur die schwarze Stellung und schaden Schwarz in keiner Weise. Qd8 18.Qd4 c6 19.Nc3 fxe4 20.Bxd6! The last key move, controlling the h6-square stops the white queen from entering, and with no counterplay left, whites position is hopeless.Der letzte

Schlüsselzug, die Kontrolle des h6-Feldes hindert die weiße Dame am Eindringen, und da kein Gegenspiel mehr möglich ist, ist die weiße Stellung hoffnungslos. Rd7]

[8...Be6! 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Rxd4 Kf7! 11.g4 c6 12.Ne3 Qf6 13.gxf5 Qxd4! 14.fxe6+! Kxe6 15.Qg4+ Kf7 16.Qd7+!? Be7 17.Qxe7+! Kxe7!? 18.Nf5+ Kf6 19.Nxd4 Nxf2 20.Rg1!? Rhe8 21.Bg2 Ne4 22.Rf1!? d5 23.Bh3]

9.Nxe7 The straightforward move, and while it to some extend plays into black's hand, it is no way bad. More solid moves, like 9 Qc2. exist, but once again, Erigaisi is afraid of nobody. Der geradlinige Zug, und obwohl er Schwarz in gewissem Maße in die Hände spielt, ist er keineswegs schlecht. Es gibt solidere Züge wie 9.Dc2, aber wieder einmal hat Erigaisi vor niemandem Angst.

[9.Nxd4 Nxd5 10.Nxf5 Bxf5! A good move, the logical move for the flow of the game, but still the computer says its usual 0.00. But the practical chances are with black. Ein guter Zug, der logische Zug für den Spielfluss, aber trotzdem sagt der Computer sein übliches 0,00. Aber die praktischen Chancen liegen bei Schwarz. *(10...Ndf6 11.Ng3 Qe7!?* Also Magnus uses the whole board, and the and forces the white queen to retreat. Auch Magnus nutzt das ganze Brett und zwingt die weiße Dame zum Rückzug. *12.Nxe4 Nxe4 13.Re1 d5* A fascinating position, unless you are a computer, which just keeps repeating 0.00. Magnus tries winning time by attacking e4, and while Erigaisi till now has played the game with optimism, now he falters into passivity. 41 Nxf4!? was possible, as after 41...exf4 42 Bb2 suddenly it is white who starts attacking, with the long diagonal being vulnerable. Still 0.0 0 though !Eine faszinierende Stellung, es sei denn, man ist ein Computer, der einfach 0,00 wiederholt. Magnus versucht Zeit zu gewinnen, indem er e4 angreift, und während Erigaisi die Partie bis jetzt mit Optimismus gespielt hat, verfällt er jetzt in Passivität. 41 Sxf4!? war möglich, denn nach 41...exf4 42 Lb2 ist es plötzlich Weiß, der angreift, wobei die lange Diagonale verwundbar ist. Trotzdem 0,00!*)* 11.Rxd5 Qd7 12.f3!? There was no immediate hurry, in the sense that black's threat is to prepare pushing his pawns on the kingside forward, and for that he anyway had to retreat his bishop from g4. However Erigaisi sees this as an oppotunity, transfering his bishop to h5, where it both attacks towards the black king and knight, but also keeps an eye on the black pawns when they start marching forward, but from a more forward outpost. Es bestand keine unmittelbare Eile in dem Sinne, dass die schwarze Drohung darin besteht, das Vorrücken seiner Bauern am Königsflügel vorzubereiten, und dafür musste er ohnehin seinen Läufer von g4 zurückziehen. Erigaisi sieht dies jedoch als Chance und verlagert seinen Läufer nach h5, wo er zum einen den schwarzen König und Springer angreift, zum anderen aber auch die schwarzen Bauern im Auge behält, wenn sie nach vorne marschieren, allerdings von einem

weiter vorne gelegenen Vorposten aus. 0-0-0 13.fxe4]

9...Bxe7! An integral party of Tiviakov's concept. It might look like first black aims for a Queen's-Indian but then changes his mind and goes for a King's Indian in the end while in the mean time white has just been making useful and logical moves. But the small details are somewaht in blacks favor. For a start, white is losing some time moving his knight around the board, and secondly while grabbing space in the centre with d5 is very typical in the Kingsindian, one can argus that while it indeed here blocks the black bishop on b7, the same can be said of whites biishop at g2. Again, we are not at all talking of black being better, but an unusual structure with black not being particulary worse has arisen.Ein wesentlicher Bestandteil von Tiviakovs Konzept. Es könnte so aussehen, als ob Schwarz zunächst auf ein Damenindisch abzielt, dann aber seine Meinung ändert und am Ende auf ein Königsindisch setzt, während Weiß in der Zwischenzeit nur nützliche und logische Züge macht. Aber die kleinen Details sind etwas zu Gunsten von Schwarz. Erstens verliert Weiß etwas Zeit, wenn er seinen Springer auf dem Brett bewegt, und zweitens ist es zwar sehr typisch für Königsindisch, mit d5 Raum im Zentrum zu gewinnen, aber man kann argumentieren, dass er hier zwar den schwarzen Läufer auf b7 blockiert, aber dasselbe kann man auch über den weißen Läufer auf g2 sagen. Auch hier geht es keineswegs darum, dass Schwarz besser steht, sondern es ist eine ungewöhnliche Struktur entstanden, bei der Schwarz nicht besonders schlecht steht. **10.g4** After 10 Nb3 d6 11 Nxc5 Tiviakov played the interesting 11...dxc5!? rerouting the knight to d6. Erigaisis choice is logical, having more space, he avoids exchanges .Nach 10 Sb3 d6 11.Sxc5 spielte Tiviakov das interessante 11... dxc5!? und leitete den Springer nach d6 um. Erigaisis Wahl ist logisch, er hat mehr Raum und vermeidet Abtausch.

[10.Nxd4 0-0 11.f3?! Magnus has managed a "change of guards" toward the c5-break, and now starts transfering his knight towards being able to join the fight to break through on the kingside. However, while generally the price of being precise has not been high the last moves, here is the exception. Now the computer says 26...axb4! is strong, as if 27 axb4 hxg4 28 hxg4 c6! black has been given a very fortunate moment to catch his opponent of guards. The main point being that after 29 dxc6 Nxc6 black threates 30...d5 attacking b4, and if 30 Nxd6 then 30...Nxb4 31 Rxb5 Qc5! wins .Magnus hat eine 'Wachablösung' in Richtung des c5-Durchbruchs geschafft und beginnt nun, seinen Springer zu verlagern, damit er in den Kampf um den Durchbruch auf der Königsseite eingreifen kann. Während jedoch in den letzten Zügen der Preis für die Genauigkeit nicht hoch war, gibt es hier eine Ausnahme. Jetzt sagt der Computer, dass 26...axb4! stark ist, weil nach 27 axb4 hxg4 28 hxg4 c6! Schwarz einen sehr glücklichen Moment bekommen hat, um seinen Gegner in die Schranken zu weisen. Der Hauptpunkt ist, dass Schwarz nach 29 dxc6 Sxc6 mit 30...d5 droht und b4 angreift, und wenn 30 Sxd6,

dann 30...Sxb4 31.Txb5 Dc5! und gewinnt. Nc5?! 12.h4 Bf6 13.Kb1 Bd7?! A winning inaccuracy? Way too string a statement, but while the computer is not impressed, from a practical perspective, as staying put made it difficult to progress, and as Wijk is one of the few tournaments to give white an extra hour after move 40, it actually made sense to intensify the struggle, while players were relatively shorter on time. Eine gewinnbringende Ungenauigkeit? Eine viel zu strenge Aussage, aber während der Computer nicht beeindruckt ist, machte es aus praktischer Sicht, da es bei Verharren schwierig ist voranzukommen und da Wijk eines der wenigen Turniere ist, das Weiß eine zusätzliche Stunde nach Zug 40 gibt, tatsächlich Sinn, den Kampf zu intensivieren, während die Spieler relativ wenig Zeit hatten. 14.Bg5 Kh8 15.Qc4 a5 16.Bd3 a4 17.f4?! A tempting move, why not seek exchanges? But exactly helps black. Better was 32 Be2. It is understandable that Erigaisi wanted to exchange rooks, as blacks on h2 is the more active, but keeping g4 firmly protected was a bigger priority. And with the a-line opened, black also starts running risk, as the white rook could suddenly start being active there! Ein verlockender Zug, warum nicht Tausch anstreben? Aber genau das hilft Schwarz. Besser war 32.Le2. Es ist verständlich, dass Erigaisi die Türme tauschen wollte, da der schwarze Turm auf h2 der aktivere ist, aber g4 fest zu schützen war eine größere Priorität. Und wenn die a-Linie geöffnet ist, geht Schwarz auch ein Risiko ein, da der weiße Turm dort plötzlich aktiv werden könnte! c6] **10...c5 11.Bh3 fxg4 12.Qxe4 d5!** As the structure has changed dramatically this back and forth, is fully justified. The bishop now supports ...f5 and the b7-square perhaps surpringly is very useful for the black knight, in terms of blockading the queenside structure as we will later see.Da sich die Struktur dramatisch verändert hat, ist dieses Hin und Her völlig gerechtfertigt. Der Läufer unterstützt nun ...f5 und das Feld b7 ist vielleicht überraschend nützlich für den schwarzen Springer, um die Struktur am Damenflügel zu blockieren, wie wir später sehen werden. **13.Qe5 0-0 14.Rhg1 Bf6 15.Qh5?!** 15 a3 was the better move-order as the computers then want to meet 15...f5 with 16 exf5 and then having the rook on b1 allows ... Bxf5!? The concept is that after 16... gxf5 17 Rb1 black's attack on the kingside is less easy to progress than in the game. 15 a3 war die bessere Zugfolge, da die Computer dann 15...f5 mit 16 exf5 begegnen wollen und der Turm auf b1 dann ...Lxf5! ermöglicht? Das Konzept besteht darin, dass nach 16...gxf5 17.Tb1 der schwarze Angriff am Königsflügel weniger leicht voranzutreiben ist als in der Partie. **15...gxf3 16.Rg3 Bh4 17.Bxc8 Rxc8** A noteworthy choice. As some stage in the evolution of Kings Indian understanding, black was avoiding playing like this as it blocks his black squared bishop out of the game like in the game. 17...h5!? was a way to progress withut allowing the immediate white g4, but computers are not especially impressed. However they point to 17...a4! The idea is that 18 b4

Nb3 allows black taking the bishop on c1 next followed by ...Bh6, and if 18 Nxa4 Nxa4 19 bxa4 Bh6!? 20 g4 Bg5! one sees the mentioned black concept in action, with the black squared bishop being active on h4,even though the computers says 21 Kf2!? Bh4+ 22 Ke2 is a decent counter, evacuating the white king towards the center! Eine bemerkenswerte Wahl. Irgendwann in der Entwicklung des Königsindisch-Verständnisses vermied Schwarz, so zu spielen, da es seinen schwarzfeldrigen Läufer aus dem Spiel heraus blockiert, wie in der Partie. 17...h5!? war eine Möglichkeit, voranzukommen, ohne das sofortige weiße g4 zuzulassen, aber die Computer sind nicht besonders beeindruckt. Sie weisen jedoch auf 17... a4! hin. Die Idee ist, dass 18 b4 Sb3 Schwarz erlaubt, den Läufer auf c1 zu nehmen, gefolgt von ...Lh6, und nach 18. Sxa4 Sxa4 19 bxa4 Lh6!? 20 g4 Lg5! sieht man das erwähnte schwarze Konzept in Aktion, wobei der schwarzfeldrige Läufer auf h4 aktiv ist, obwohl der Computer sagt, dass 21 Kf2!? Lh4+ 22 Ke2 ein anständiger Konter ist, der den weißen König ins Zentrum evakuiert! **18.Bg5 Bxg5+** As mentioned this is a clever square for the knight, controlling whites potential c5-break as well as keeping an eye on a5. Wie bereits erwähnt, ist dies ein kluges Feld für den Springer, der den möglichen c5-Durchbruch des Weißen kontrolliert und gleichzeitig ein Auge auf a5 wirft. **19.Rxg5 Qe8 20.Qh6** It is fair to say that the position is closed, but not yet fully blocked. At sight it seems like only black has a pawn-break with potentially ...c6, but Kings Indian knowledge tells us that black aims at sacrificing on g4, while white will push c5, even as a pawn sacrifice. Obviously meaning that while players try to carry out their own plan, then simultaneously try and prevent the opponents from happening too.Man kann sagen, dass die Stellung zwar geschlossen, aber noch nicht vollständig blockiert ist. Auf den ersten Blick sieht es so aus, als ob nur Schwarz einen Bauerndurchbruch mit möglicherweise ...c6 hat, aber das Königsindisch-Wissen sagt uns, dass Schwarz ein Opfer auf g4 anstrebt, während Weiß auf c5 drängen wird, sogar als Bauernopfer. Das bedeutet natürlich, dass die Spieler versuchen, ihren eigenen Plan auszuführen und gleichzeitig versuchen, den gegnerischen Plan zu verhindern. **20...Rf7 21.Rdg1! Rcc7 22.Rxd5 Rce7 23.Kd1 Re5 24.Rxe5 Qxe5 0-1**

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□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**

■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**

Tata Steel-A 85th (13) 29.01.2023

[Nielsen,Peter Heine]

The situation before the last round was clear, Magnus needed to win in order to have any chance of winning the tournament, as he was trailing Abdusattorov by a full point. Having the black pieces in general is not seem as ideal in such a scenario, but it is notheworthy that Magnus managed to in as many as 4 games with black in Wijk! Die Situation vor der letzten Runde war klar: Magnus musste gewinnen, um überhaupt noch eine Chance auf den Turniersieg zu haben, da er mit einem

ganzen Punkt Rückstand auf Abdusattorov lag. Die schwarzen Figuren zu haben, scheint in einem solchen Szenario nicht ideal zu sein, aber es ist erwähnenswert, dass Magnus in Wijk nicht weniger als 4 Partien mit Schwarz gewinnen konnte! **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3** In a way a brave choice by Erigaisi, just aiming to play chess, rather than trying to force events by following long theorethical lines. But while the young indians tournament took a turn for the worse in the latter half, his spirit for figthing chess always seemed to be there. In gewisser Weise war es eine mutige Entscheidung von Erigaisi, einfach nur Schach zu spielen, anstatt zu versuchen, die Ereignisse durch das Verfolgen langer theorethischer Varianten zu erzwingen. Aber während das Turnier des jungen Inders in der zweiten Hälfte eine Wendung zum Schlechteren nahm, schien sein Wille, Schach zu spielen, immer vorhanden zu sein. **2...d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nf6!?** The double-financhietto like this is a somewhat rare guest at top-level. The reason mainly is that it does only arise logically via the 1 Nf3 move-order as after 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 black sort of have to play 2...e6 before going 3...b6 next ,for a regulat Queens Indian. Thus perhaps the double fianchetto has not gained a lot of attention, but in Tiviakovs recent " Rock Solid Chess", the now Dutch Grandmaster gives an excellent overview of the strategical concept of the opening, by showing a number of his own games in the line. Apparantly in such an inspiring way, that even the World Champion decided to give it a try! Das Doppel-Financhietto wie dieses ist ein eher seltener Gast auf hohem Niveau. Das liegt vor allem daran, dass es sich nur logisch über die Zugfolge 1. Sf3 ergibt, da Schwarz nach 1 d4 Sf6 2 c4 gewissermaßen 2...e6 spielen muss, bevor er 3...b6 spielt, für ein reguläres Damenindisch. Deshalb hat das Doppelfianchetto vielleicht nicht viel Aufmerksamkeit erregt, aber in Tiviakovs kürzlich erschienenem 'Rock Solid Chess' gibt der jetzt niederländische Großmeister einen ausgezeichneten Überblick über das strategische Konzept der Eröffnung, indem er eine Reihe seiner eigenen Partien in dieser Linie zeigt. Offenbar auf eine so inspirierende Weise, dass sogar der Weltmeister beschloss, es zu versuchen!

[4...a6 5.h3 Nc6 6.Qe3 Nf6 7.Be2]

5.e5 Nc6 6.Qa4

[6.Bb5 Qa5+ 7.Nc3 Qxb5 8.Nxb5 Nxd4 9.Nbxd4 dxe5 10.Nxe5 g6]

6...Ng4

[6...dxe5 7.Nxe5 Qd4 8.Qxd4 Nxd4 9.Na3]

7.Bb5!? One of the charming things with the system is that already here it is not obvious how white should react. 7 Nc3 perhaps looks like the logical move, but 7...Ne4 just leads to favaourable exchanges for black, and unlike the regular Queens-Indian black even as a bonus, opens the long diagonal with easy equality. Apart from the game-move, 7 Re1 is another critical move, played by Nakamura against Magnus in a later online game. Then it becomes a typical "waiting game, as after 7...e6 8 Bf4 d6 white avoids playing Nc3 not allowing ...Ne4, but here somehow it is white who runs out of useful moves first. 9 Qc2 perhaps being critical, but then black has 9...c5, made Nakamura play 9

Nbd2 but soon to be strategically worse. Eines der reizvollen Dinge an diesem System ist, dass schon hier nicht klar ist, wie Weiß reagieren soll. 7 Sc3 sieht vielleicht wie der logische Zug aus, aber 7...Se4 führt nur zu günstigem Abtausch für Schwarz, und im Gegensatz zum regulären Damenindisch öffnet Schwarz sogar als Bonus die lange Diagonale mit leichtem Ausgleicht. Abgesehen vom Partiezug ist 7 Te1 ein weiterer kritischer Zug, den Nakamura in einer späteren Online-Partie gegen Magnus spielte. Dann wird es ein typisches 'Wartespiel', denn nach 7...e6 8 Lf4 d6 vermeidet Weiß, Sc3 zu spielen, was ... Se4 nicht zulässt, aber hier ist es irgendwie Weiß, dem zuerst die nützlichen Züge ausgehen. 9.Dc2 ist vielleicht kritisch, aber dann hat Schwarz 9...c5, was Nakamura dazu brachte, 9.Sbd2 zu spielen, wonach er aber bald strategisch schlechter stand.

[7.exd6 Qb6]

7...Ngxe5 The logical move, and what Tiviakov recommends, even if the computers insists that after 7...b5 8 Qb3 Qc8 9 Qxb5 c6 black has very decent compensation for the sacrificed pawn. Der logische Zug, den Tiviakov empfiehlt, auch wenn der Computer darauf besteht, dass Schwarz nach 7...b5 8 Db3 Dc8 9 Dxb5 c6 eine sehr gute Kompensation für den geopferten Bauern hat. **8.Nxe5 dxe5** White logically managed to block the b7-bishop, but like this black again gets ready for ...Nfe4. Weiß hat es logischerweise geschafft, den b7-Läufer zu blockieren, aber so macht sich Schwarz wieder bereit für ...Sfe4.

9.Bxc6+ The straightforward move, and while it to some extend plays into black's hand, it is no way bad. More solid moves, like 9 Qc2. exist, but once again, Erigaisi is afraid of nobody. Der geradlinige Zug, und obwohl er Schwarz in gewissem Maße in die Hände spielt, ist er keineswegs schlecht. Es gibt solidere Züge wie 9.Dc2, aber wieder einmal hat Erigaisi vor niemandem Angst. **9...bxc6!** An integral party of Tiviakov's concept. It might look like first black aims for a Queen's-Indian but then changes his mind and goes for a King's Indian in the end while in the mean time white has just been making useful and logical moves. But the small details are somewaht in blacks favor. For a start, white is losing some time moving his knight around the board, and secondly while grabbing space in the centre with d5 is very typical in the Kingsindian, one can argus that while it indeed here blocks the black bishop on b7, the same can be said of whites biishop at g2. Again, we are not at all talking of black being better, but an unusual structure with black not being particulary worse has arisen. Ein wesentlicher Bestandteil von Tiviakovs Konzept. Es könnte so aussehen, als ob Schwarz zunächst auf ein Damenindisch abzielt, dann aber seine Meinung ändert und am Ende auf ein Königsindisch setzt, während Weiß in der Zwischenzeit nur nützliche und logische Züge macht. Aber die kleinen Details sind etwas zu Gunsten von Schwarz. Erstens verliert Weiß etwas Zeit, wenn er seinen Springer auf dem Brett bewegt, und zweitens ist es zwar sehr typisch für Königsindisch, mit d5 Raum im Zentrum zu gewinnen, aber man kann argumentieren, dass er hier zwar den schwarzen Läufer auf b7 blockiert, aber dasselbe kann man auch

über den weißen Läufer auf g2 sagen. Auch hier geht es keineswegs darum, dass Schwarz besser steht, sondern es ist eine ungewöhnliche Struktur entstanden, bei der Schwarz nicht besonders schlecht steht. **10.Be3** After 10 Nb3 d6 11 Nxc5 Tiviakov played the interesting 11...dxc5!? rerouting the knight to d6. Erigaisis choice is logical, having more space, he avoids exchanges. Nach 10 Sb3 d6 11.Sxc5 spielte Tiviakov das interessante 11... dxc5!? und leitete den Springer nach d6 um. Erigaisis Wahl ist logisch, er hat mehr Raum und vermeidet Abtausch.

[10.Qxc6+ Bd7 11.Qe4 f6 12.0-0 Qc8]

10...f6

[10...Qd7 11.Nc3 g6 12.Ne4 Qd5 13.Nc3 Qd7]

11.Nc3 Kf7 12.0-0

[12.Rd1 Qc7 13.Ne4 g6 14.Nc5]

12...Bf5! As the structure has changed dramatically this back and forth, is fully justified. The bishop now supports ...f5 and the b7-square perhaps surpringly is very useful for the black knight, in terms of blockading the queenside structure as we will later see. Da sich die Struktur dramatisch verändert hat, ist dieses Hin und Her völlig gerechtfertigt. Der Läufer unterstützt nun ...f5 und das Feld b7 ist vielleicht überraschend nützlich für den schwarzen Springer, um die Struktur am Damenflügel zu blockieren, wie wir später sehen werden. **13.Qxc6**

[13.Rad1 Qc8 14.Ne4 Bxe4 *(14...g5 15.Nc5 h5 16.Qc4+ Kg6)* 15.Qxe4 e6]

13...a6

[13...Qc8 14.Qxc8 Rxc8 15.Bxa7 e6 16.a4]

14.Rfd1

[14.Na4 Qc8 15.Qxc8 Rxc8 16.c3 e4]

14...Qc8 15.Qxc8?! 15 a3 was the better move-order as the computers then want to meet 15...f5 with 16 exf5 and then having the rook on b1 allows ... Bxf5!? The concept is that after 16...gxf5 17 Rb1 black's attack on the kingside is less easy to progress than in the game. 15 a3 war die bessere Zugfolge, da die Computer dann 15...f5 mit 16 exf5 begegnen wollen und der Turm auf b1 dann ...Lxf5! ermöglicht? Das Konzept besteht darin, dass nach 16...gxf5 17. Tb1 der schwarze Angriff am Königsflügel weniger leicht voranzutreiben ist als in der Partie.

[15.Qa4 Rb8 16.Rd5 *(16.Rab1 g5 17.Ne4 h5)* 16...Rxb2 17.Rc5 Qb7 18.Rc6]

15...Rxc8 16.Rac1 g5

[16...e6 17.Rd7+ Be7 *(17...Kg6 18.Na4 Rxc2 19.Rd8 Rxc1+ 20.Bxc1)* 18.Na4 Rxc2 19.Rxc2 Bxc2 20.Bc5 Bxa4 21.Rxe7+ Kg6 22.Rxe6]

17.Rd2 e6 A noteworthy choice. As some stage in the evolution of Kings Indian understanding, black was avoiding playing like this as it blocks his black squared bishop out of the game like in the game. 17...h5!? was a way to progress withut allowing the immediate white g4, but computers are not especially impressed. However they point to 17...a4! The idea is that 18 b4 Nb3 allows black taking the bishop on c1 next followed by ...Bh6, and if 18 Nxa4 Nxa4 19 bxa4 Bh6!? 20 g4 Bg5! one sees the mentioned black concept in action, with the black squared bishop being active on h4,even though the computers says 21 Kf2!? Bh4+ 22 Ke2 is

a decent counter, evacuating the white king towards the center! Eine bemerkenswerte Wahl. Irgendwann in der Entwicklung des Königsindisch-Verständnisses vermied Schwarz, so zu spielen, da es seinen schwarzfeldrigen Läufer aus dem Spiel heraus blockiert, wie in der Partie. 17...h5!? war eine Möglichkeit, voranzukommen, ohne das sofortige weiße g4 zuzulassen, aber die Computer sind nicht besonders beeindruckt. Sie weisen jedoch auf 17... a4! hin. Die Idee ist, dass 18 b4 Sb3 Schwarz erlaubt, den Läufer auf c1 zu nehmen, gefolgt von ...Lh6, und nach 18. Sxa4 Sxa4 19 bxa4 Lh6!? 20 g4 Lg5! sieht man das erwähnte schwarze Konzept in Aktion, wobei der schwarzfeldrige Läufer auf h4 aktiv ist, obwohl der Computer sagt, dass 21 Kf2!? Lh4+ 22 Ke2 ein anständiger Konter ist, der den weißen König ins Zentrum evakuiert! **18.Na4**

[18.Rd7+ Kg6 19.Na4 *(19.f3 h5 20.Ra7 a5)* 19...Rxc2 20.Rd8 Bg7 21.Rxh8 Bxh8 22.Rxc2 Bxc2 23.Nc5 f5 24.Nxa6 e4]

18...Be7 As mentioned this is a clever square for the knight, controlling whites potential c5-break as well as keeping an eye on a5. Wie bereits erwähnt, ist dies ein kluges Feld für den Springer, der den möglichen c5-Durchbruch des Weißen kontrolliert und gleichzeitig ein Auge auf a5 wirft.

[18...Rc7 19.c4 Bb4 20.Rdd1 Be4 21.a3 Be7 22.b4]

[18...Be4 19.Nb6 Rc7 20.c4 Bb4 21.Rdd1 Be7 22.c5]

19.c4

[19.Nb6 Rcd8 20.c4 Be4]

19...Be4 20.c5 It is fair to say that the position is closed, but not yet fully blocked. At sight it seems like only black has a pawn-break with potentially ...c6, but Kings Indian knowledge tells us that black aims at sacrificing on g4, while white will push c5, even as a pawn sacrifice. Obviously meaning that while players try to carry out their own plan, then simultaneously try and prevent the opponents from happening too. Man kann sagen, dass die Stellung zwar geschlossen, aber noch nicht vollständig blockiert ist. Auf den ersten Blick sieht es so aus, als ob nur Schwarz einen Bauerndurchbruch mit möglicherweise ...c6 hat, aber das Königsindisch-Wissen sagt uns, dass Schwarz ein Opfer auf g4 anstrebt, während Weiß auf c5 drängen wird, sogar als Bauernopfer. Das bedeutet natürlich, dass die Spieler versuchen, ihren eigenen Plan auszuführen und gleichzeitig versuchen, den gegnerischen Plan zu verhindern.

20...Bc6 21.Nb6! Rcd8

[21...Rc7 22.b4]

22.Nc4 Rxd2

[22...Rd5 23.b4 *(23.Nd6+ Kg6)* 23...Rhd8 24.f3 h5]

23.Bxd2 Rd8 24.Be3

[24.Bxg5 Bd5 *(24...Rg8 25.Nd6+ Bxd6 26.cxd6 Rc8 27.Bd2)* 25.Be3 Bxc4]

24...Ke8 25.b4

[25.Na5 Kd7 26.b4 *(26.Nxc6 Kxc6 27.b4 f5 28.f3 Rd3 29.Bf2 h5)* 26...Bd5 27.a3 Kc7 28.c6 g4]

25...Kd7

[25...Rd3 26.g3 e4]

26.f3?! Magnus has managed a "change of guards" toward the c5-break, and now starts transfering his knight towards being able to join the fight to break through on the kingside. However, while

generally the price of being precise has not been high the last moves, here is the exception. Now the computer says 26...axb4! is strong, as if 27 axb4 hxg4 28 hxg4 c6! black has been given a very fortunate moment to catch his opponent of guards. The main point being that after 29 dxc6 Nxc6 black threates 30... d5 attacking b4, and if 30 Nxd6 then 30...Nxb4 31 Rxb5 Qc5! wins. Magnus hat eine 'Wachablösung' in Richtung des c5-Durchbruchs geschafft und beginnt nun, seinen Springer zu verlagern, damit er in den Kampf um den Durchbruch auf der Königsseite eingreifen kann.
Während jedoch in den letzten Zügen der Preis für die Genauigkeit nicht hoch war, gibt es hier eine Ausnahme. Jetzt sagt der Computer, dass 26...axb4! stark ist, weil nach 27 axb4 hxg4 28 hxg4 c6! Schwarz einen sehr glücklichen Moment bekommen hat, um seinen Gegner in die Schranken zu weisen. Der Hauptpunkt ist, dass Schwarz nach 29 dxc6 Sxc6 mit 30...d5 droht und b4 angreift, und wenn 30 Sxd6, dann 30... Sxb4 31.Txb5 Dc5! und gewinnt.

[26.Rd1+ Kc7 27.Rxd8 Bxd8 28.Nd6 Be7 29.g4]

26...Kc7?! 27.Kf2 h5 28.h4

[28.h3 Rd3 29.g4 h4 30.Ke2 Rd5]

28...gxh4?! A winning inaccuracy? Way too string a statement, but while the computer is not impressed, from a practical perspective, as staying put made it difficult to progress, and as Wijk is one of the few tournaments to give white an extra hour after move 40, it actually made sense to intensify the struggle, while players were relatively shorter on time. Eine gewinnbringende Ungenauigkeit? Eine viel zu strenge Aussage, aber während der Computer nicht beeindruckt ist, machte es aus praktischer Sicht, da es bei Verharren schwierig ist voranzukommen und da Wijk eines der wenigen Turniere ist, das Weiß eine zusätzliche Stunde nach Zug 40 gibt, tatsächlich Sinn, den Kampf zu intensivieren, während die Spieler relativ wenig Zeit hatten.

[28...g4 29.fxg4 hxg4 30.h5 g3+ 31.Kxg3 Rg8+ 32.Kh2 Rxg2+ 33.Kh3]

29.Nd6

[29.Rh1

A) 29...Bd5!? 30.Nd6 a5! 31.b5!? Bxd6 32.cxd6+ Kxd6 33.a4;

B) 29...Be8!? 30.Nd6 *(30.Rxh4 f5 31.Rh1 f4 32.Bc1 Rd4 33.Nd6 Bxd6 34.cxd6+ Kxd6)* 30...Bxd6 31.cxd6+ Rxd6!? 32.Rxh4 f5 33.Rc4+ Kb7;

C) 29...Rd3 30.Rxh4 Rc3! 31.Nd6 Rc2+ 32.Kg1 Re2 33.Bf2 Bxd6! 34.cxd6+! Kxd6 35.Rxh5 Rxa2]

29...f5 30.Re1

[30.Rh1 And as 57 Qc2 Qa3 and 57 Ka2 Bd1 leads to immediate mates, Erigaisi resigned. Und da 57.Dc2 Da3 und 57.Ka2 Ld1 zu sofortigem Matt führen, gab Erigaisi auf. Bxd6 31.cxd6+ Rxd6-+ 32.Rxh4 f4 33.Bc5 Rd2+!? 34.Kg1 Be8 35.a4!]

30...h3 31.Rh1

[31.gxh3! Bh4+]

31...hxg2 32.Rxh5?! A tempting move, why not seek exchanges? But exactly helps black. Better was 32 Be2. It is understandable that Erigaisi wanted to exchange rooks, as blacks on h2 is the more active, but keeping g4 firmly protected was a bigger priority. And with the a-line opened, black also starts running risk, as the white rook could suddenly start being active there! Ein

verlockender Zug, warum nicht Tausch anstreben? Aber genau das hilft Schwarz. Besser war 32.Le2. Es ist verständlich, dass Erigaisi die Türme tauschen wollte, da der schwarze Turm auf h2 der aktivere ist, aber g4 fest zu schützen war eine größere Priorität.
Und wenn die a-Linie geöffnet ist, geht Schwarz auch ein Risiko ein, da der weiße Turm dort plötzlich aktiv werden könnte! **32...Rg8**

[32...f4 33.Bc1 Bxd6 34.cxd6+ Rxd6]

33.Kg1 Rg7 34.Nc4 Bxf3! A good move, the logical move for the flow of the game, but still the computer says its usual 0.00. But the practical chances are with black. Ein guter Zug, der logische Zug für den Spielfluss, aber trotzdem sagt der Computer sein übliches 0,00. Aber die praktischen Chancen liegen bei Schwarz. **35.Rh6**

[35.Rh3 Be4 36.Nxe5 Bf6 37.Bf4 Kb7! The last key move, controlling the h6-square stops the white queen from entering, and with no counterplay left, whites position is hopeless. Der letzte Schlüsselzug, die Kontrolle des h6-Feldes hindert die weiße Dame am Eindringen, und da kein Gegenspiel mehr möglich ist, ist die weiße Stellung hoffnungslos.]

35...f4 36.Nxe5!? There was no immediate hurry, in the sense that black's threat is to prepare pushing his pawns on the kingside forward, and for that he anyway had to retreat his bishop from g4. However Erigaisi sees this as an oppotunity, transfering his bishop to h5, where it both attacks towards the black king and knight, but also keeps an eye on the black pawns when they start marching forward, but from a more forward outpost. Es bestand keine unmittelbare Eile in dem Sinne, dass die schwarze Drohung darin besteht, das Vorrücken seiner Bauern am Königsflügel vorzubereiten, und dafür musste er ohnehin seinen Läufer von g4 zurückziehen. Erigaisi sieht dies jedoch als Chance und verlagert seinen Läufer nach h5, wo er zum einen den schwarzen König und Springer angreift, zum anderen aber auch die schwarzen Bauern im Auge behält, wenn sie nach vorne marschieren, allerdings von einem weiter vorne gelegenen Vorposten aus.

[36.Bd2 Desperation, but inderstandable. Just sitting passively left zero chances. Verzweiflung, aber unverständlich. Einfach passiv dasitzen ließ null Chancen. Bg5 37.Rh8 Bd5 38.Nxe5 f3! The piece has been won back, and black switches to solidity again, removing the knight from threat and aiming for the e5 square. Die Figur wurden zurückgewonnen, und Schwarz stellt wieder auf Solidität um, entfernt den Springer aus der Bedrohung und zielt auf das Feld e5. 39.Bxg5 f2+ 40.Kxf2?! 48 Qa3 was the aboslute last chance, even if the endgame is obviously much better for black. 48 Qa3 war die absolut letzte Chance, auch wenn das Endspiel offensichtlich viel besser für Schwarz ist. g1Q+ 41.Kxg1 Rxg5+! Allowing some checks, but they only add to blacks position and in no way harms black. Erlaubt einige Schachs, aber sie verbessern nur die schwarze Stellung und schaden Schwarz in keiner Weise.]

36...Bg5

[36...fxe3? 37.Nxf3! While black's plan at first sight perhaps looks like ... g3, Magnus had a much stronger concept in mind. He cleared the 8th rank for his queen, to access the h3 square via h8. As white can't exchange on that square, as the black pawn then queens, it means that black now just penetrates on the kingside, the computers already giving the verdict: Black is winning. Während der schwarze Plan auf den ersten Blick vielleicht nach ...g3 aussieht, hatte Magnus ein viel stärkeres Konzept in petto. Er machte die achte Reihe für seine Dame frei, um über h8 auf das Feld h3 zu gelangen. Da Weiß auf diesem Feld nicht abtauschen kann, da dann der schwarze Bauer umwandelt, bedeutet dies, dass Schwarz nun einfach am Königsflügel eindringt, wobei die Computer bereits das Urteil verkünden: Schwarz gewinnt. Kd7 38.Ne5+]

37.Rh3

[37.Rxe6?! Bd5]

37...fxe3 38.Nxf3 e2!? Also Magnus uses the whole board, and the and forces the white queen to retreat. Auch Magnus nutzt das ganze Brett und zwingt die weiße Dame zum Rückzug.

39.Kxg2 Bh4+ 40.Kh2 e1Q A fascinating position, unless you are a computer, which just keeps repeating 0.00. Magnus tries winning time by attacking e4, and while Erigaisi till now has played the game with optimism, now he falters into passivity. 41 Nxf4!? was possible, as after 41...exf4 42 Bb2 suddenly it is white who starts attacking, with the long diagonal being vulnerable. Still 0.00 though! Eine faszinierende Stellung, es sei denn, man ist ein Computer, der einfach 0,00 wiederholt. Magnus versucht Zeit zu gewinnen, indem er e4 angreift, und während Erigaisi die Partie bis jetzt mit Optimismus gespielt hat, verfällt er jetzt in Passivität. 41 Sxf4!? war möglich, denn nach 41...exf4 42 Lb2 ist es plötzlich Weiß, der angreift, wobei die lange Diagonale verwundbar ist. Trotzdem 0,00!

0-1

D31

□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2852**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**

Airthings Masters Div 1 W rapid (2.3)
[Kitty Kat]

D31: Queen's Gambit Declined: Semi-Slav without ...Nf6 (+ Marshall Gambit and Noteboom) and Exchange Variation lines without ...Nf6

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 c6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bf4 Nf6

[5...Bd6 6.Bxd6 Qxd6 7.e3 Ne7 8.Bd3 Bf5 9.Nge2 0-0 10.Bxf5 Nxf5 11.h4 Qe7 12.h5 Nd7 13.Qd3 Nd6 14.Ng3 Qg5 15.Nce2 Rfe8 16.0-0-0 a5 17.Ng1 a4 18.Nf3 Qe7 19.Nf5 Nxf5 20.Qxf5 8.♗h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2608)-Large,P (2572) World Championship Match, 43rd Game 1985 (8) ½-½]

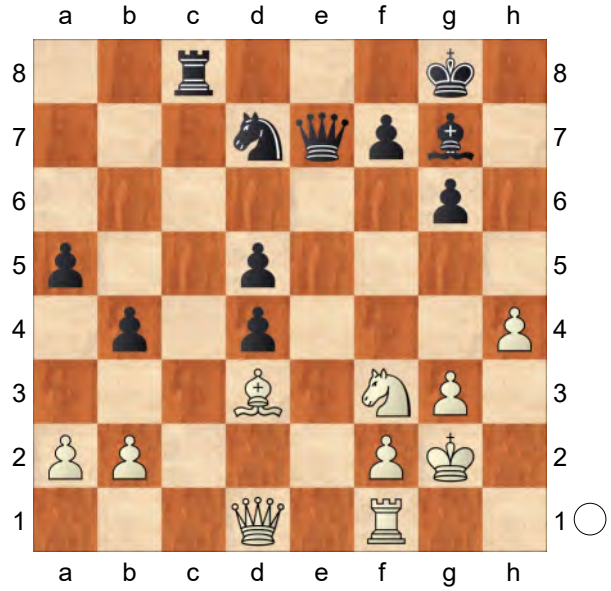
6.e3 Bf5 7.Nge2N

[7.Bd3 Bxd3 8.Qxd3 Bd6 9.Bxd6 Qxd6 10.Nf3 Nbd7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Rfe1 Rae8 13.e4 dxe4 14.Nxe4 Nxe4 15.Rxe4 Nc5 Gaitan Ramirez,A (2080)-Cifuentes Parada,R (2483) Dos Hermanas op 2000 (2) 0-1]

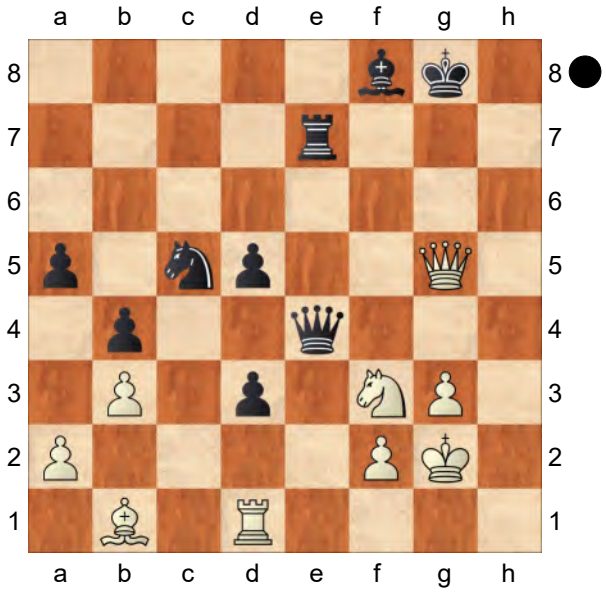
7...Nh5 8.Ng3 Nxf4 9.Nxf5 Ne6 The position is equal. **10.g3 Nd7**

[10...g6!? 11.Nh4□ Bd6=]

11.Bd3 g6 12.Nh4 Bg7 13.Nf3 0-0 14.0-0 b5 15.Rc1 Rc8 16.h4 a5 17.Kg2 Qe7 18.Ne2 b4 19.Nf4 Nxf4+ 20.exf4 c5 21.f5 cxd4 0.80/23
[21...c4= -0.01/21 remains equal. 22.Re1 Qd6]
22.Rxc8 Rxc8 23.fxg6! hxg6



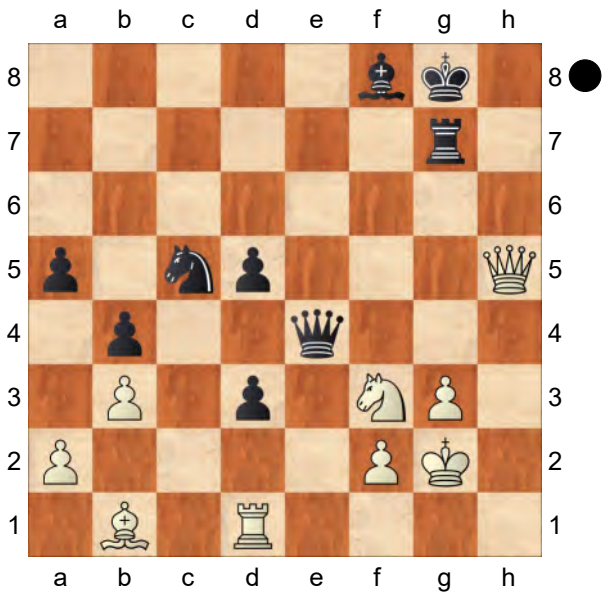
24.h5! Qf6 25.hxg6 fxg6 26.Qe2 0.57/21
[White should try 26.Nh4!± 1.05/22 Ne5 27.Re1]
26...Nc5± 27.Rc1 White has compensation. **27...Bf8 28.Bb1**
[28.Re1 simplifies Rc7 29.Ne5 Ne4 30.Bxe4 Qxe5 31.Bxg6 Qxe2 32.Rxe2 a4 33.Re5]
28...Rc7! 29.Nh4 -0.01/21
[29.b3± 0.40/21]
29...g5 30.Qg4 d3 31.Nf3
[31.Bxd3? Rg7 *(31...Qxb2? 32.Qxg5+ Rg7 33.Qxd5+ Rf7 34.Qg5+ Qg7 35.Rxc5+-)* 32.Bc4 *(32.Rxc5? gxh4* Discovered Attack *33.Qc8 hxg3-+)* 32...dxc4-+ *(32...gxh4? 33.Bxd5+ Kh8 34.Qc4-+)*]
31...Rg7 0.75/23
[31...Qg6= 0.01/21]
32.b3 -0.01/22
[32.Rd1!± 0.75/23 Qg6 33.Qd4]
32...Qg6= 33.Re1 Against Qg6-e4. Strongly threatening Qg4-d4. **33...Re7** ...Re7xe1 is the strong threat. **34.Rd1** -1.84/24
[34.Qxg5? Qxg5 35.Rd1 Qf6 36.Bxd3 Nxd3 37.Rxd3 Rf7-+]
[34.Rh1= 0.01/22 Rg7 35.Qh3 *(35.Rh5? Qe4-+)*]
34...Qe4!-+ 35.Qxg5+



Rg7! 36.Qh5 -3.59/28
[36.Qe5 -1.71/23 Ne6 37.Qxe4 *(37.Bxd3? Nf4+-+)* 37...dxe4 38.Ne1]

(Diagram)

36...Ne6! (-> ...Ne6-f4+) **37.Kg1 Rh7?** -1.08/23 Inhibits Bb1xd3.
[37...Nf4-+ -3.53/25 38.Bxd3 Nxd3 *(38...Nxh5? 39.Bxe4 dxe4 40.Nd2-+)*]
38.Qe8 -1.68/23
[38.Qe5∓ -1.08/23 Rf7 *(38...Qxf3 39.Qxe6+ Rf7 40.Qg6+ Kh8 41.Qxd3=)* 39.Qxe4 dxe4 40.Ne5]



38...Qxf3? 0.01/26
[38...Rh6-+ -1.68/23 39.Rxd3 *(39.Bxd3 Qxf3)* 39...Nc5]
39.Qxe6+= Kh8 Dancing on a razor blade. **40.Qe5+**
[40.Rxd3? Rh1#]
40...Kg8 41.Qe6+
[41.Rxd3? Rh1#]
41...Rf7
[41...Kh8!? 42.Qe5+□ *(42.Rxd3? Rh1#)* 42...Kg8 43.Qg5+ *(43.Rxd3? Rh1#)* 43...Kh8 *(43...Kf7 44.Qf4+ Qxf4 45.gxf4±)* 44.Qe5+= *(44.Rxd3? Rh1#)*]
42.Qg6+!
[42.Rxd3? too greedy. Qxf2+ 43.Kh1 Qf1+ 44.Kh2 Qxb1-+]
[42.Rd2 Qe4 43.Qxe4 dxe4 44.Bxd3 Bh6∓ *(44...exd3 45.Rxd3 Ra7 46.f4-+)*]
42...Bg7 43.Rd2 -1.66/26
[43.Rxd3? is a self mate. Qxf2+ 44.Kh1 Qf1+ 45.Kh2 Rf2#]
[43.Qxd3= 0.01/24 and White is okay. Qxf2+ 44.Kh1]
43...Qe4↑ Black has strong initiative.
44.Qxe4 -2.26/23
[44.Qg5 -1.70/25 was worth a try. Rf5 *(44...Qe1+? 45.Kg2∓)* 45.Qg6]
44...dxe4 KRB-KRB **45.Kg2?** -3.84/26
[45.Bxd3 -2.11/24 exd3 46.Rxd3]
45...Bc3 46.Rd1 Bd4 47.f3 -4.41/25
[47.f4 -2.53/24 might work better.]
47...Rxf3 Black is clearly winning.
[And not 47...exf3+ 48.Kh3±]
48.Re1 -13.99/27
[⌓48.Kh3 -4.37/22]
48...Rf2+ 49.Kh3 d2
Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/ Black=0.22 (precise)
0-1

D13

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Yu,Yangyi** **2729**

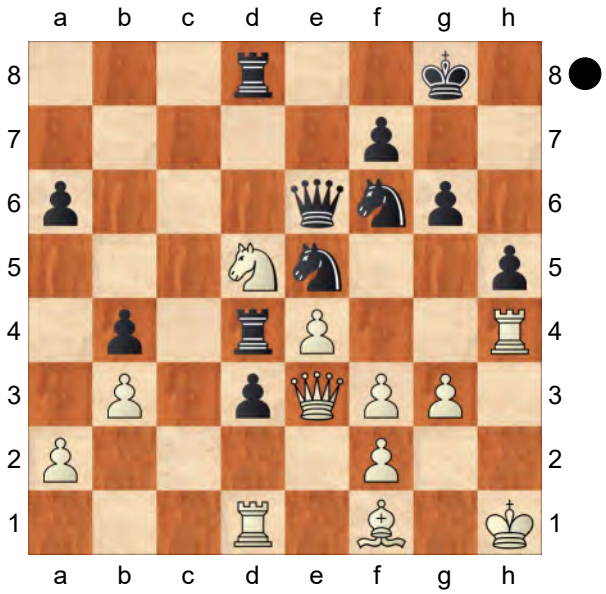
Chessable Masters Div 2 Lose rapid (2.3)
[Kitty Kat]

D13: Slav Defence: Exchange variation without ...Bf5
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.Nc3 e6 6.Bf4 Bd6 7.Bg3 0-0 8.e3 Bxg3
[8...Nc6 9.Bd3 Qe7 10.Ne5 Nd7 11.f4 f5 12.0-0 Nf6 13.Bh4 Bd7 14.Rc1 Qe8 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.Nxd7 Qxd7 17.Rf3 Kh8 18.Rh3 Rg8 19.Qh5 Rg7 20.Ne2 Rag8 21.Ng3 Ne7 22.Kh1 Rc8 23.Rg1 Roche (2135)-9. ♗e3 ♘d7 10.a3 ♘b6 692 (2158) Yerevan (m/2-rapid) 103/171 2008 (7.2) 0-1]
9.hxg3 Nc6 White has an edge. **10.Bd3 g6N**
[10...h6 11.Ne5 Qb6 12.Qe2 Nxe5 13.dxe5 Nd7 14.Rxh6 gxh6 15.Qg4+ Kh8 16.Qh4 Kg7 17.Qg4+ Chapter-Games Chapter 4 Game 2]
11.Kf1 Qd6 12.Qd2 e5 13.dxe5
[13.e4 seems wilder. exd4 14.Nxd5

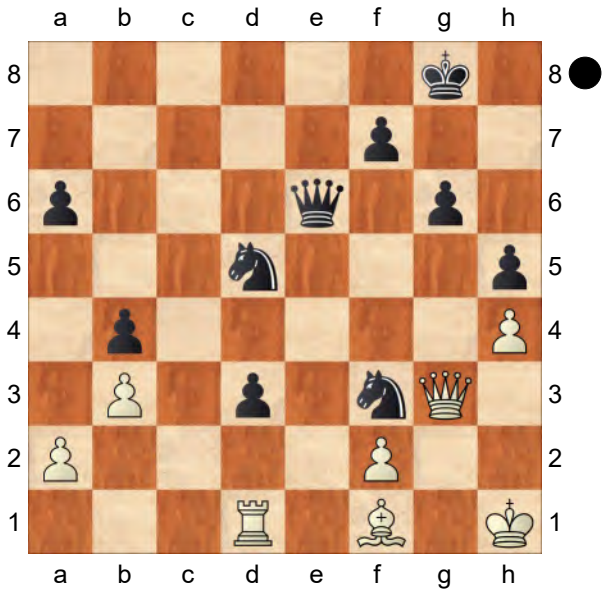
Ng4 15.Rd1]
13...Nxe5 14.Be2 Bg4 15.Rd1 Rad8 16.e4 h5 17.Qf4 Bxf3 18.gxf3 Qe6 aiming for ...d5-d4. **19.Kg2** -0.01/21
[19.Nxd5± 0.41/23 deserves consideration. Nxd5 20.Rxd5 Rxd5 21.exd5 Qxd5 22.Kg2]
19...d4= 20.Nb5 -1.31/22
[20.Na4!± 0.43/20 was the only good move.]
20...d3↑ Black is in control. **21.Bf1 a6 22.Nc3 Rd4 23.Rh4 Rfd8 24.Qg5 Nh7** -1.09/21
[⌓24...Qd6 -1.55/20 25.f4 Neg4 *(25...Nxe4? 26.fxe5 Nxg5 27.exd6+-)*]
25.Qe3 Nf6 0.01/18 Repels Nc3-d5
[25...Nc4∓ -0.86/20 26.Qc1 Ne5 *(26...d2 27.Qc2∓)*]
26.b3 -1.44/21
[26.Nd5? Nxd5 27.exd5 *(27.Qxd4? Nf4+* Discovered Attack *28.gxf4 Rxd4-+)* 27...R4xd5∓ *(27...Qxd5 28.Rxd4 Qxd4 29.Qxd4=)*]
[26.Qg5!= 0.01/18 was the only way to keep the balance.]
26...b5 Black is much more active.
27.Kh1 -2.24/20
[27.Nd5 Nxd5 28.exd5 *(28.Qxd4? Nf4+* Discovered Attack *29.gxf4 Rxd4-+)* 28...R4xd5∓ *(28...Qxd5 29.Rxd4 Qxd4 30.Qxd4=)*]
[27.Nb1∓ -1.34/20]
27...b4 -0.76/20
[27...R4d6-+ -2.24/20 And now ...Qe6-c8 would win. 28.Kg2 Rc6]
28.Nd5

(Diagram)

R8xd5 29.exd5 Rxh4+ 30.gxh4 Nxd5 31.Qg5 Nxf3 -0.01/25
[31...Kg7∓ -1.09/22 32.Rxd3 Nxd3



33.Bxd3 Qh3+ 34.Kg1 Qxf3 35.Bxa6 Nf6]
32.Qg3? -2.19/24
[32.Qd8+!= -0.01/25 and White has nothing to worry. Kh7 33.Rxd3]



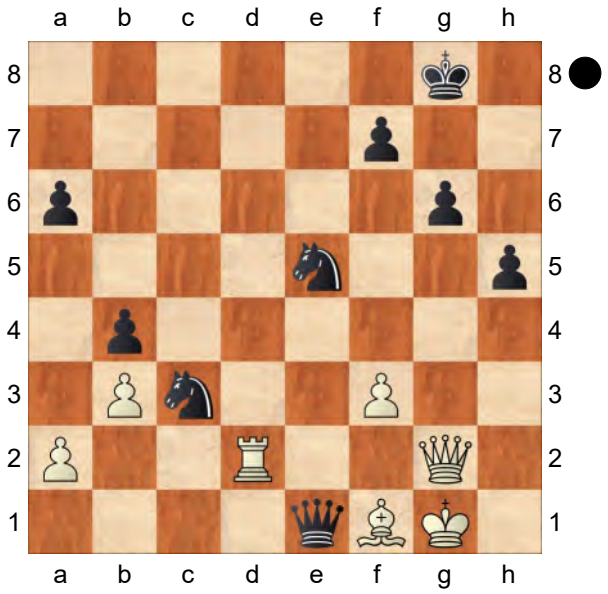
32...Ne5!-+ A dynamic duo of knights.
33.Bxd3 Nc3 34.Rd2 Qd5+ Black has strong compensation. **35.Qg2** Strongly threatening Qg2xd5. **35...Qd4**
[35...Qxg2+ 36.Kxg2 Nxd3 37.Rxd3 Nxa2 38.Kf3±]
36.Qg3 Qd5+? 0.01/19

[Black should play 36...Ne4-+ -2.30/26 37.Bxe4 Qxe4+ *(37...Qxd2 38.Qxe5 Qxf2 39.Bd5±)* 38.f3 Nxf3]

37.Qg2= Qd4

[37...Qxg2+ 38.Kxg2 Nxd3 39.Rxd3 Nxa2 40.Kf3±]

38.f3? -11.14/22 **Qxh4+-+** Black is clearly winning. **39.Kg1 Qe1+ 40.Bf1**



Qxd2!! Decoy **41.Qxd2**

[41.Kh1 Qe1]

41...Nxf3+ 42.Kf2 Nxd2 43.Bxa6 Nxa2

Weighted Error Value: White=0.66/ Black=0.26 (precise)

0-1

B76

☐ **Yu,Yangyi** **2729**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**

Chessable Masters Div 2 L rapid (2.2)

[Chris Ward,Kitty Kat]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.g4 Be6 10.Nxe6 fxe6 11.Be2!?

[A very rare continuation and certainly novelty for the site. Regulars will be only too aware that in this still popular line, main theory runs 11.0-0-0 Ne5 12.Be2 (followed by 12... Qc8) but instead the Chinese superstar of the chessboard deploys a spot of prophylaxis (regards the f3-pawn).]

11...d5

[Careless would be 11...Ne5?! (expecting to transpose after 12 0-0-0) because of 12.g5! Nh5 13.f4 Nf7 14.Bxh5 gxh5 with undesirable h-pawns.]

[Equally 11...Qc8 12.0-0-0 Ne5 would return to normal lines but again White doesn't have to allow a transposition and could say delay long castles in favour of 12 h4!?.]

Instead we get the natural thematic response. **12.exd5** And now we are surprisingly in a unique position.

[On the few occasions that this position has been reached, White has continued with 12.0-0-0 when Nxg4 *(12...d4 13.Bxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qxd4 15.Rxd4 Nd5 16.Rc4 Nxc3 17.bxc3 Be5* is completely equal but I like the dynamic 12...Qa5! swiftly activating her majesty.*)* 13.exd5 *(*The point obviously being *13.fxg4 d4)* 13...Nxe3 14.Qxe3 exd5 15.Nxd5 e5?! should have been met by 16 h4! in Majoros,R (1997)-Pacher, M (2437) Budapest 2021 but wasn't! *(15...e6!? 16.Qxe6+ Kh8* on the other hand is a more dynamic approach with active piece play for the pawn. *)*]

12...Nxd5 Opening up both the rook and Dragon bishop. **13.Nxd5 exd5**

[As White has the bishop pair, it's quite logical to keep the queens on although 13...Qxd5 14.c3 *(* Maybe

14.Qxd5 exd5 15.0-0-0 offers White a little something.*)* 14...Rad8 15.Qxd5 *(*or *15.Qc2 Ne5)* 15...exd5 should be fine.]

14.0-0-0 e6

[Protecting the d5-pawn. Instead 14...d4!? 15.Bf2 Qd5 16.Kb1 is a tough one to call. Black has a well placed queen and generally good pieces although White has the bishop pair and fewer pawn islands (albeit with a target on f3).]

15.Kb1 Qc7

[There were a few options for her majesty with 15...Qh4 seeking to throw a spanner in White's attacking works and]

[15...Qf6 16.c3 Rab8 17.h4 b5 enabling both sides to go for it.]

16.h4 Ne5 First and foremost targeting the pawn on f3. **17.f4 Nc4 18.Bxc4 Qxc4 19.h5** The black queen is quite well placed but one can't deny that White has a kingside initiative with the g6-point a bit tender. **19...Rac8 20.hxg6 hxg6 21.Qh2** Suddenly Bd4 feels like a serious threat and so the black king does a runner! **21...Kf7 22.f5** The black king can now expect some undesirable exposure but it might not prove disastrous. **22...Rh8! 23.fxe6+?** 0.44/21

[23.Qf2!+- 2.23/21 Rxh1 24.Rxh1 exf5 25.gxf5 *(25.Bxa7? Qb4-+)*]

23...Kxe6± 24.Qd2 Rxh1 25.Rxh1 d4

[Upon the immediate 25...Rf8 26.Bxa7 Black must now prevent Re1+. Rf1+ 27.Rxf1 Qxf1+ 28.Qc1 Qf3 1.06/23 the black queen is active but it's still a pawn. *(28...Qxc1+=* 0.30/24 remains equal. *29.Kxc1 Bh6+ 30.Kd1 b5)*]

26.Bg5 Rf8 So it's the same idea for Black but although the a7-pawn won't drop, his king position is certainly draughty! **27.Qe1+ Kf7 28.Qe4?!** 0.24/24

[Relatively speaking letting Black off the hook. Instead 28.Qe7+! Kg8 29.Qxb7 was critical. Black has to prove something for the pawn but Rf1+ 2.48/26 *(29...d3±* 1.28/22) 30.Rxf1+- Qxf1+ 31.Bc1 Bh6 3.78/26 fails to *(⌓31...Kh7* 2.32/24 *32.Qd5 Qh3)* 32.Qa8+ Kh7 5.53/29 *(⌓32...Bf8* 3.63/25 *33.Qd5+ Qf7 34.Qxd4 Qf3 35.Qc4+ Kh7 36.Qc7+ Kg8 37.Qxa7 Qxg4)* 33.Qxa7++- Kg8 34.Qb8+ Kh7 35.Qc7+ Kg8 36.Qc8+ Kh7 37.Qd7+ Kg8 and now 38.g5 solves the back rank pin situation as Bxg5 runs into 39.Qd5+]

[28.Qe7+± 1.31/24 Kg8 29.Rd1 *(29.Qxb7 d3∓)*]

28...Qc6= 29.Rf1+ Kg8 30.Rxf8+ Kxf8 31.Qf4+ Kg8 32.Qb8+ Kf7 33.Bc1

[This time after 33.Qxa7?? -4.12/25 33.Bc1 0.37 Qh1+ 34.Bc1 Threatens to win with Qc5. Bh6 there are no available checks to help White out.]

[33.Qxa7? Qh1+ 34.Bc1 Bh6-+]

33...a6 And now this should really just be a draw. **34.a3 Qe4 35.Qc7+ Kg8 36.Qd7 Qc6?** 1.72/25 Anything (36...Qf3, 36...Kh7 etc.) but this.

[36...Qf3± 0.35/27]

37.Qxc6+- bxc6 38.Ka2 White's 34th move facilitates this swift access to the action for the white king. **38...Kf7 39.Kb3! Ke6 40.Kc4** And suddenly Black's pawns don't look so clever. **40...Ke5?** 4.58/27

[40...Kd6 1.70/26 was necessary. 41.Bf4+ Ke6]

41.b4? 0.13/29

[The immediate 41.Kc5! would have

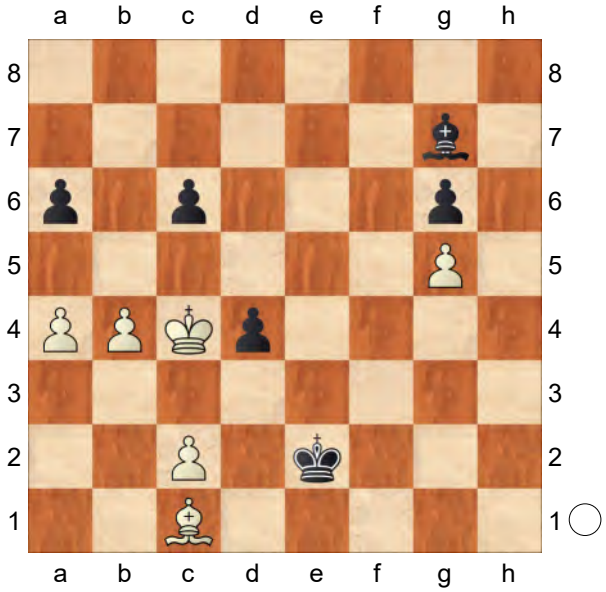
done the job e.g. Ke4 42.Kxc6 d3 6.90/23 *(⌓42...Kf3 4.16/25 43.Kb6 Kxg4)* 43.cxd3++- Kxd3 44.b4 but alas Black doesn't grasp his opportunity.]
[41.Kc5+- 4.58/27]

41...Ke4? 3.88/27
[41...Bf8! would have kept the white king out of c5 whilst 42.Bb2 could have been met by Kf4]
[41...Bf8!= 0.13/29 and Black is okay.]

42.a4? 0.05/28
[Again 42.Kc5 was straightforward but I'm assuming that time trouble was now affecting accuracy.]
[42.Kc5+- 3.88/27]

42...Kf3 1.43/23
[42...Bf8! was once more the order of the day.]
[42...Bf8!= 0.05/28 keeps the balance.]

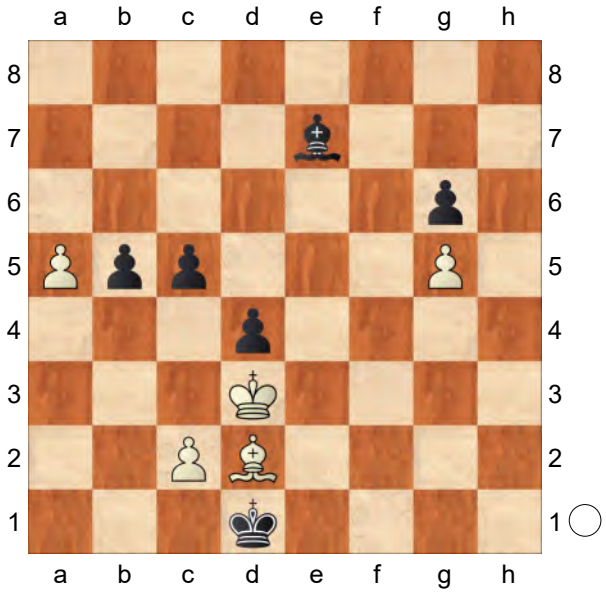
43.g5!± Ke2? 3.12/29
[43...Kf2± 1.45/26]



44.Bf4? 0.01/29
[Instead 44.a5! Kd1? 5.42/25 *(44...Bf8* 1.68/24 is a better chance.*)*
45.Bb2+- Kxc2? 10.02/25 *(45...Bf8* 2.82/24 *46.Bxd4 Bd6)* 46.Bxd4+- Bxd4 *(or 46...Bf8 47.Bc5 Bg7 48.Be7* with Kc5 up next.*)* 47.Kxd4 Kb3 48.Kc5 Kc3 49.Kxc6 Kxb4 50.Kb6 would have won the day.]
[44.a5!+- 3.12/29 Bf8 *(44...Kd1? 45.Bb2+-)* 45.Bb2]

44...Kd1!= 45.Kd3 Bf8! 46.Bd2 Be7 47.a5 c5?? 10.32/29
[After 47...Bd6 48.c3 dxc3 49.Bxc3 Bf4 50.Bf6 Bd6! Prevents Be7. 51.Kc4 Ke2 White can't make any progress.]
[47...Bd6= -0.01/33]

48.b5!+- axb5

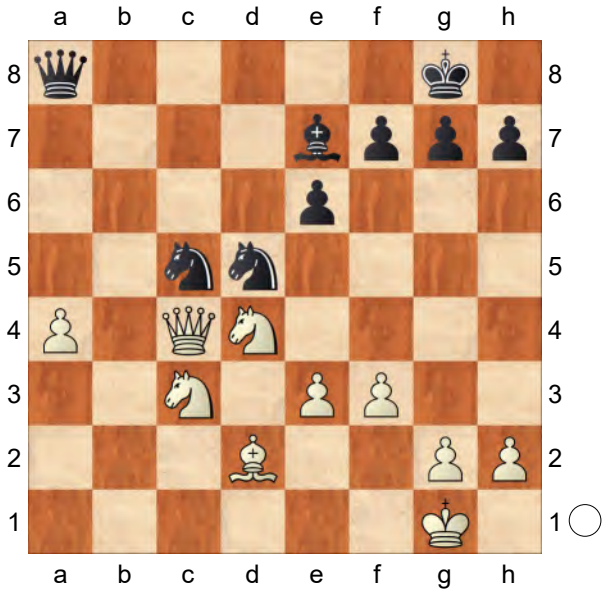


49.a6! Now this pawn is unstoppable.
49...c4+ 50.Kxd4 Bd8 51.Kc5 Kxd2 52.a7 Kxc2 53.a8Q
[53.a8B? too greedy. c3 *(53...Bxg5 54.Be4+ Kc3 55.Kxb5=)* 54.Be4+ Kb3 55.Bxg6 b4-+ *(55...Bxg5 56.Kxb5 Bh6 57.Bd3=)*]
53...Bxg5 54.Qe4+ Kb3 55.Qb1+ Ka3 56.Qxb5 Ka2 57.Kxc4
1-0

D22

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Yu,Yangyi** **2729**
Chessable Masters Div 2 Lose rapid (2.3)
[Kitty Kat]

D22: Queen's Gambit Accepted: 3 Nf3 a6 4 e3
RR: 'Mon Hokmome: 'D22: Queen's Gambit Accepted: 3 Nf3 a6 4 e3'' **1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 a6 4.e3 b5 5.a4 Bb7 6.b3 e6 7.bxc4 bxc4 8.Bxc4 Nf6** White is slightly better. **9.0-0 Nbd7 10.Nbd2 Be7 11.Rb1 Rb8 12.Qe2 0-0 13.Bxa6N**
[13.Bb2 c5 14.Bxa6 Bxa6 15.Qxa6 Ra8 16.Qb5 *(16.Qc4 Nb6 17.Qc2 Nxa4 18.Ba1 cxd4 19.Bxd4 Qc8 20.Nc4 Nd5 21.Rfc1 Nac3 22.Bxc3 Qxc4 23.Bd4 Qxc2 24.Rxc2 Rfc8 25.Rxc8+ Rxc8 26.g3 f6 27.e4 Nb4 28.Be3 Kf7 29.Rc1 Rxc1+ 30.Bxc1 Nc6* Cheparinov,I (2670)-Pelletier,Y (2609) Hersonissos 101/(127) 2007*)* 16...Ra5 17.Qb3 Qa8 18.Ra1 Rb8 19.Qc2 cxd4 20.Nxd4 Rc8 21.Qb1 Rxa4 22.Rxa4 Qxa4 23.Rc1 Qa6 24.Rxc8+ Qxc8 25.h3 h6 26.Qc2 Qxc2 27.Nxc2 Nd5 Chapter D00 D49-Games Chapter D00-D49]
13...Bxa6 14.Qxa6 And now Rb1xb8 would win. **14...Rxb1 15.Nxb1 Qa8 16.Qc4 c5 17.Qa2 Rc8 18.Bd2 cxd4 19.Nxd4 Ne4** 1.22/20
[Better is 19...Bd8± 0.55/19]
20.Rc1 0.16/20
[White should try 20.Nxe6± 1.22/20 aiming for Ne6-d4. Qa6 21.Nd4]
20...Rxc1+= 21.Bxc1 Ndc5 22.f3 Nf6 23.Nc3 Qa6! 24.Qe2 Black must now prevent Qe2xa6. **24...Qa5 25.Qc4 Nd5! 26.Bd2 Qa8**
[Don't go for 26...Nxc3? 27.Nc6+- *(27.Bxc3 Qxa4 28.Qxa4 Nxa4=; 27.Bxc3 Qxa4 28.Qxa4 Nxa4=)*]



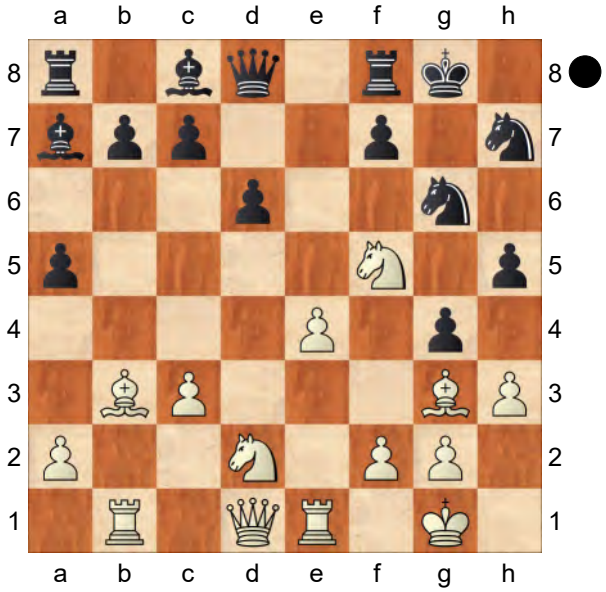
Against Nd4-c6 **27.a5!** Deflection **27...Qxa5 28.Nxd5 exd5 29.Qc1** -0.06/21
[29.Bxa5± 0.37/24 dxc4 30.Bb4]
29...Qa4 The position is equal. **30.Nf5 Bf8 31.Bc3 Qc4 32.Qd2 Ne6 33.h3 h5 34.Bb2 g6 35.Nd4 Nxd4 36.Bxd4 Bg7 37.Bxg7 Kxg7** Endgame. KQ-KQ **38.Kf2 h4 39.Qb2+ Kg8 40.Qb8+ Kg7 41.Qe5+ Kg8 42.f4 Qc2+ 43.Kg1 Qd1+ 44.Kh2 Qe1 45.Qe8+ Kg7 46.Qe5+ Kg8 47.Qe8+ Kg7 48.Qe5+ Kg8**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless) . Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?
0-1

C54

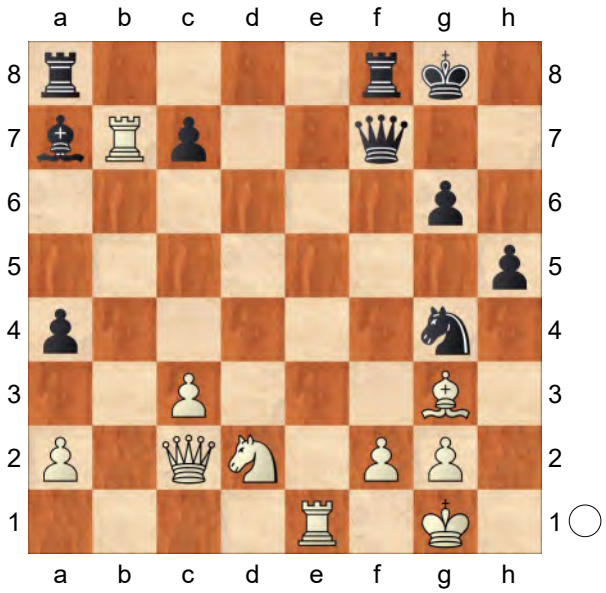
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
■ **Ding,Liren** **2811**
Tata Steel-A 85th (5) 19.01.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 a5 10.Re1 Ba7 11.Nbd2 Nh7 12.d4 g4 13.Nh4 exd4 14.Rb1 Ne5 0.19/19
[⌓14...Re8 -0.25/19]
15.Bb3 -0.38/19
[White should try 15.cxd4= 0.19/19 Bxd4 16.Nf5 Bxf5 17.exf5]
15...dxc3 0.06/20
[15...d3∓ -0.38/19]
16.bxc3= h5 17.Nf5 -0.70/20
[17.a4= 0.14/18]
17...Ng6 0.01/19
[17...Nd3∓ -0.70/20 18.Rf1 Bxf5 19.exf5 Nc5]
18.h3



a4! 19.Bc4
[19.Bxa4? h4 20.Bh2 g3 21.Nxg3 hxg3 22.Bxg3 Qg5-+]
19...d5 20.Bxd5 Bxf5 1.05/20
[20...c6!= -0.01/21 21.hxg4 *(21.Bc4 b5∓)* 21...h4 *(21...cxd5 22.gxh5 Bxf5 23.exf5∓)* 22.Bxf7+ Decoy Rxf7 23.Nh6+ Kg7 24.Nxf7 Kxf7]
21.exf5±
[21.Bxb7? Be6 22.Bxa8 h4-+ *(22...Qxa8? 23.h4-+)*]
21...Qxd5 22.fxg6 fxg6 23.hxg4 Nf6 1.13/21
[⌓23...Qd3 0.77/21 24.Ne4 *(24.Bxc7? Bxf2+ 25.Kh2 Bxe1-+)* 24...Qxd1 25.Rexd1 *(25.Rbxd1 hxg4 26.Rd7 Rae8±)* 25...Rae8 *(25...Rfe8 26.Re1±)*]
24.Qc2
[24.Bxc7? Bxf2+ *(24...Qxa2 25.gxh5 Nxh5 26.Bb6±; 24...Nxg4 25.Ne4∓)* 25.Kh1 *(25.Kxf2? Qc5+ 26.Ke2 Nd5-+)* 25...Bxe1-+ *(25...Qxa2? 26.Re2-+; 25...hxg4? 26.Re7-+; 25...Nxg4? 26.Re2-+)*]
24...Qf7 25.Rxb7 Nxg4

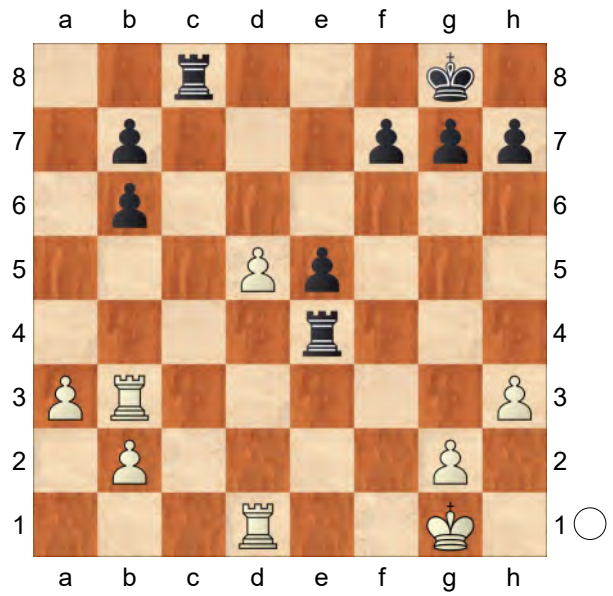


26.Nf3 -0.01/21 Active counter play!
[26.Qxa4? Bxf2+ 27.Kh1 Rxa4-+]
[26.Ne4!± 0.92/22]
26...Bb6= 27.c4 aiming for c5. **27...Ra5 28.Rb1** Threatens to win with R1xb6.

28...Qf6 29.Bxc7 -0.72/22
[29.Qe4= -0.01/19 keeps the balance.]
29...Bxf2+∓ 30.Kh1 Rf5 31.Qe4 Rxf3 -0.01/24
[Black should play 31...Bd4∓ -1.07/23 (-> ...Qh4+!) 32.Bg3 *(32.Qxd4? Qxd4-+)* 32...h4]
32.Qd5+=
[32.Qxf3? perishes. Qh4+ 33.Qh3 Be1-+]
32...Rf7 33.Bd8! Qf4 34.Bc7! Chess con chili. **34...Qf6 35.Bd8! Qf4 36.Bc7! Qf6 37.Bd8! Rf5**
[37...Qf4? 38.Bc7∓]
38.Bxf6N Rxd5 39.Rb8+ Rf8 The position is equal. **40.cxd5 Nxf6 41.Rxf8+ Kxf8**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.17 (very precise)
½-½

E20
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
■ **Ding,Liren** **2811**
Tata Steel-A 85th (5) 19.01.2023
[Kitty Kat]

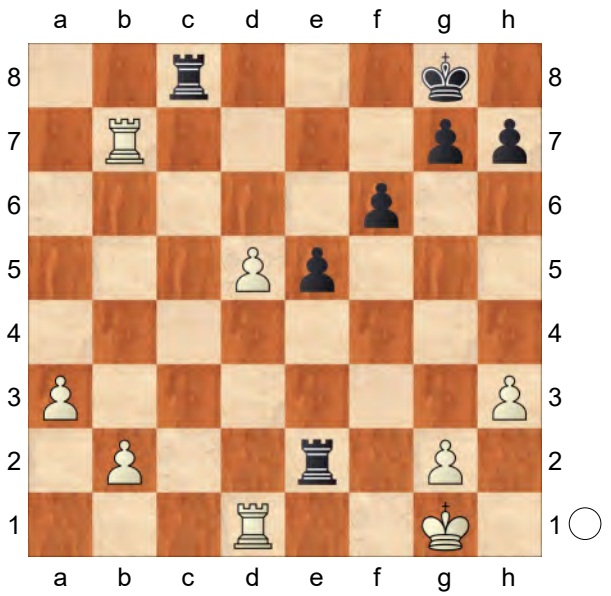
E20: Nimzo-Indian: 4 g3 and 4 f3
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Bd6 6.e4 dxe4 7.fxe4 e5 Strongly threatening ...e5xd4. **8.d5 0-0** White is slightly better.8...g5 has become a bit dusty these days. 8...g5 ist ein bisschen altmodisch geworden. **9.Nf3 Bg4 10.h3 Bh5 11.Be3N** Repels Bd6-c5
[11.Bd3 Bc5 12.g4 Bg6 13.Bc2 Re8 14.Bg5 h6 Wards off h3-h4 15.Bh4 c6 16.b4 0.08/18 *(16.Qd2± 0.45/21* deserves consideration.*)* 16...Be7= 17.0-0 a5 18.Nxe5 axb4 19.Nxg6 fxg6 20.e5 Nfd7 21.Bxe7 Qxe7 22.Bxg6 bxc3 23.Bxe8 Qxe8 24.e6 Bandeira,M-Garcia,J Abu Dhabi Masters op 2001 Nf6 25.Qd3 cxd5 26.cxd5 Na6 27.Rae1 Nc7 28.d6 Nxe6 29.Qc4 Kf7 30.Qe4 Rd8 31.Rxf6+ gxf6 32.Qh7+ Kf8 33.Qh8+ Kf7 34.Qh7+ Kf8 35.Rf1 Nf4 36.Qxh6+ Kf7 37.Qh7+ Kf8 38.Qh6+ Kf7 39.Qxf4 Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2764)-10. ♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2767) SSZ FT-97 corr Switzerland 1938 (8) ½-½]
11...Nbd7 Dodges c4-c5 **12.Be2** -0.34/20
[12.Qc2= 0.14/23 is superior.]
12...Bc5N 0.07/24
[12...Bg6∓ -0.34/20]
13.Qd3= c6 14.dxc6
[14.g4 is more complex. Qb6 15.Na4 Qa5+ 16.Nd2]
14...Bxf3 0.44/23
[14...bxc6= -0.03/24 might be stronger. 15.Bxc5 Nxc5 16.Qxd8 Raxd8 *(16...Rfxd8 17.Nxe5 Re8 18.Nxc6=)* 17.Nxe5 Bxe2 *(17...Ncxe4 18.Nxe4 Bxe2 19.Nxf6+ gxf6 20.Nxc6±)* 18.Kxe2 Rde8 19.Nxc6 Nfxe4]
15.cxd7± Bxe2 16.Qxe2 Bxe3 17.Qxe3 Qxd7 18.Rd1 Dodges Qd7-d4
18...Qe6 0.74/23
[18...Qe7= 0.27/22]
19.Nd5 0.37/24
[White should try 19.0-0± 0.74/23]
19...Rfc8 20.0-0 White is more active.
20...Nxd5
[20...Rxc4 21.Nxf6+ gxf6 22.Qh6+-]
21.cxd5
[21.exd5 Qb6 22.Qxb6 axb6=]
21...Qb6 22.Qxb6 axb6 Endgame. KRR-KRR **23.Rf3 Ra4 24.Rb3! Rxe4**
(Diagram)



25.Rxb6 0.00/37
[25.d6!± 0.74/26]
25...Re2= 26.Rxb7 And now d5-d6 would win.
[26.d6!? Rcc2□ 27.d7 Rxg2+ 28.Kh1 Rh2+ *(28...Rxb2 29.d8Q#)* 29.Kg1 Rhg2+ *(29...Rxh3 30.d8Q#; 29...Rcg2+ 30.Kf1=)* 30.Kh1 Rh2+ *(30...Rxb2 31.d8Q#)* 31.Kg1 Rcg2+ *(31...Rxh3 32.d8Q#)* 32.Kf1 Rf2+ *(32...Rxb2 33.d8Q#)* 33.Kg1 Rfg2+ 34.Kf1= Rf2+ *(34...Rxb2 35.d8Q#)* 35.Ke1 Re2+ *(35...Rxb2 36.d8Q#)* 36.Kf1 Ref2+= *(36...Rxb2 37.d8Q#)*]
26...f6 0.72/32
[26...h5= 0.00/32 remains equal.]

(Diagram)

27.Rd3!± Rcc2 28.Rg3 g6 29.d6 Red2! 30.a4 0.07/29
[30.d7± 0.58/25 Kf8 31.h4]
30...Rxd6= 31.a5 f5 32.Re7 Rdd2
[32...Rxb2 33.Rc3 Rb8 34.Rcc7±]
33.Kh1 Black must now prevent a5-a6.
[33.a6!? f4□ Deflection 34.Rb3=]
33...Kf8



[33...Rxb2? perishes. 34.a6+-]
34.Rxh7 a5-a6 is the strong threat.
34...f4! 35.Rb3
[35.Rxg6 is a self mate. Rc1+ 36.Kh2 Rdd1 37.Rf6+ Kg8]
35...Rd8 5.85/22 Inhibits Rb3-b8.
[35...Kg8!= 0.02/23 and Black has nothing to worry. 36.Ra7 Rxb2 37.Rxb2 Rxb2]
36.a6? 0.00/22
[36.Rh8++- 5.85/22 Ke7 37.Rb7+ Rd7 38.Rh7+ Ke6 39.Rhxd7 *(39.Rbxd7 Rxb2 40.Rde7+ Kf5+-)*]
36...e4? 9.57/21
[36...Kg8= 0.00/22 37.Ra7 e4]
37.Rh8++- White is clearly winning.
37...Ke7 Predecessor: **38.Rxd8 f3 39.gxf3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.29 (precise) . An unexpected result.
½-½

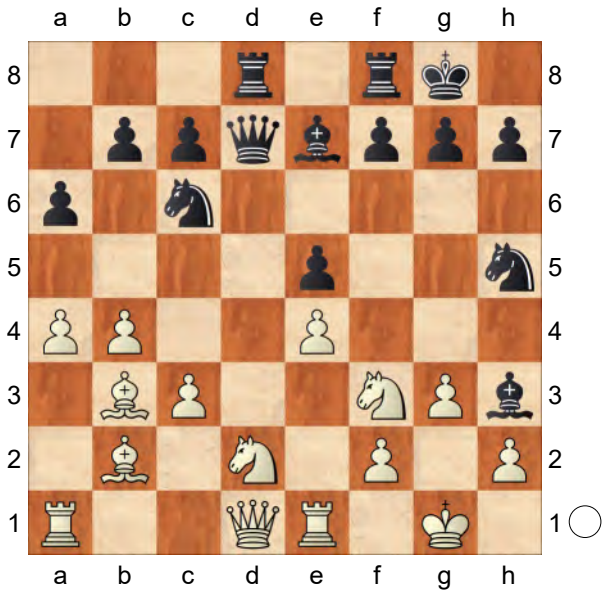
C54

□ **Firouzja,Alireza** 2785
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** 2701
Airthings Masters Div 1 W rapid (1.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3

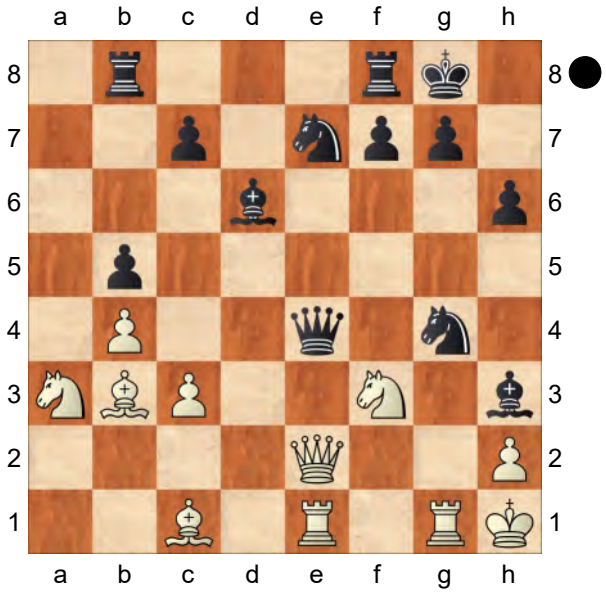
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.b4 Be7
[6...Bb6 7.a4 a6 8.0-0 h6 9.Re1 d6 10.Nbd2 Be6 11.h3 Qd7 12.Nf1 Ne7 13.Bxe6 Qxe6 14.Ng3 Kh7 15.Nh2 d5 16.Qf3 dxe4 17.dxe4 Rad8 18.Ng4 Nxg4 19.hxg4 Rd6 20.g5 Qg6 21.Nf5 Glosehoff,O (2098)-5.0-0 ♘d4 6.♘d4 cd4 38896 (1808) IND-chT 42nd 2023 (2) 1-0]
7.Nbd2
[7.0-0 d5 8.exd5 Nxd5 9.b5 Na5 10.Bxd5 Qxd5 11.c4 Qd7 12.Bd2 e4 13.Bxa5 exf3 14.Qxf3 a6 15.bxa6 Rxa6 16.Bc3 b5 17.Nd2 b4 18.Bb2 c5 19.Rfe1 Bb7 20.Qe2 Rg6 21.Ne4 f5 3) Italian 3...Nf6 - Solid Be (2546)-15. ♘c4 0-0 16. ♕e5 ♖ab8 (2698) 137/31 France 2018 (11) 0-1]
7...d5 8.Bb3 Be6N
[8...dxe4 9.dxe4 Qd3 10.Bb2 a5 11.a3 b5 12.Qe2 Qxe2+ 13.Kxe2 Bb7 14.Rhd1 Rfd8 Ch The Italian Game-The Italian Game: 6.b4 #5]
9.0-0 The position is equal. **9...a6 10.Re1 Qd7 11.Bb2 dxe4 12.dxe4 Rad8 13.a4 Nh5 14.g3** Inhibits Nf4.
14...Bh3 0.74/18
[14...Bxb3= -0.13/18 keeps the balance. 15.Nxb3 Qxd1 16.Raxd1 Rxd1 17.Rxd1 Nf6]

(Diagram)



15.Kh1 -0.11/18
[15.b5!± 0.74/18]
15...Nf6 0.27/19 Prevents Bd5.
[15...Qc8 -0.11/18 might be stronger.]
16.Qe2= Bg4 17.Nc4 Bd6
[17...Qd3 simplifies 18.Qxd3 Rxd3 19.Nfxe5 Nxe5 20.Nxe5 Rd2]
18.Kg2
[18.Bc2 simplifies h6 19.Ne3 Bh5 20.Kg2]
18...b5 0.65/22
[18...Qc8= 0.08/19]
19.axb5 0.23/21
[19.Ne3!± 0.65/22]
19...axb5 20.Na3 -0.19/21
[20.Ne3!± 0.42/21 Bh3+ 21.Kg1]
20...Rb8! 21.Qe3 Ne7 0.16/19
[21...h6∓ -0.46/17]
22.Ng5 -0.73/20
[22.c4= 0.16/19 bxc4 *(22...Bxb4 23.Nxe5 Bh3+ 24.Kg1∓)* 23.Nxc4]
22...Qc8∓ 23.f4? -2.36/20 Loses the game.
[23.f3∓ -0.69/18 Bd7 24.Qe2]
23...h6 24.Nf3? -4.38/20
[24.fxe5 -2.06/19 might work better. Bxe5 25.Nf3]

24...exf4-+ 25.gxf4 Bh3+ -2.37/20
[⩲25...Ng6 -4.18/20 26.Ne5 Bxe5 *(26...Nxe5? 27.fxe5 Bxe5 28.h3-+)* 27.fxe5 Bf3+ Decoy *(27...Nxe5? 28.Rf1-+)* 28.Kxf3 Qh3+ 29.Ke2 Qg2+ Skewer, Double Attack *(29...Qxh2+ 30.Qf2±)* 30.Kd1 Qxb2 31.exf6 Rfd8+ *(31...Qxa1+? 32.Qc1-+; 31...Qxb3+? 32.Kc1-+)* 32.Bd5 Qxa1+ 33.Qc1 Qxc1+ *(33...Qa2? 34.Re2-+)* 34.Kxc1 Ne5 *(34...gxf6? 35.Rg1-+)*]
26.Kh1 Qg4 27.Rg1 Repels Qg2+
27...Qxf4⟶ Black wants a kill.
[Don't take 27...Bxf4 28.Rxg4 Bxe3 29.Rg3-+]
28.Rae1 -4.54/21
[28.Qxf4 -2.24/21 Bxf4 29.Bc1 Bxc1 30.Rgxc1]
28...Ng4 Black is clearly winning.
29.Qe2 Strongly threatening Rg3!
29...Qxe4 Deflection **30.Bc1** -7.20/20
[But not 30.Bxf7+? Rxf7 31.Rxg4 Qxe2 *(31...Qxg4? 32.Rg1-+; 31...Qxf3+? 32.Qxf3 Rxf3 33.Rg3-+)* 32.Rxe2 Bxg4]
[⩲30.Bc2 -4.36/20 Qd5 31.Rd1]



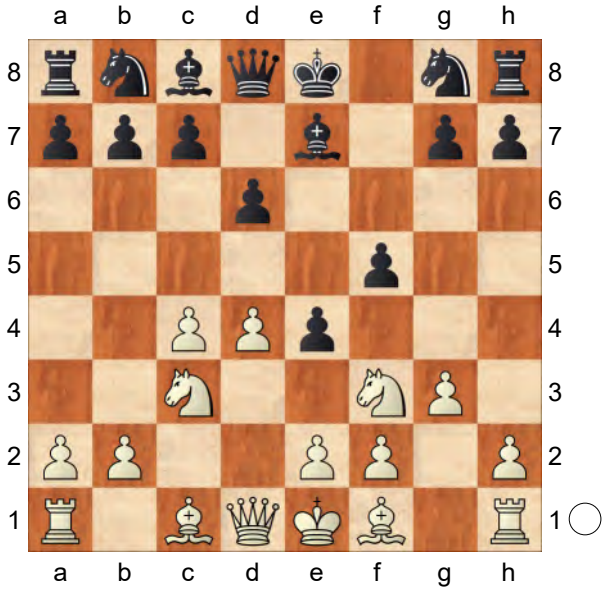
30...Ng6! 31.Bc2
[31.Rg3 Qxe2]
31...Qc6 32.c4 Rbe8
Weighted Error Value: White=1.09/ Black=0.29 (precise)
[Weaker is 32...Nxh2 33.Be4 Qd7 34.Nxh2∓]
0-1

A21
□ **Svidler,Peter** **2683**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
28th Sigeman & Co 2023 (3) 06.05.2023
[David Cummings<MH]

A21: English Opening: 1...e5 2 Nc3
1.c4 e5 2.g3 d6 3.Nc3 f5 4.d4 White wants to clarify the centre right away. A more common choice is to continue development with:
[4.Bg2 Nf6 5.Nf3 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.b4 Kh8 8.d3 Qe8 leading to a typical setup with the players pressing on opposite wings - see Yu Yangyi-Najer in the Archives.]
4...Be7 Black's main move, maintaining a flexible pawn front. Some 15 years ago, Svidler went for a different idea with the Black pieces:
[4...e4 but this gives White a better structure, with no loss of time. Now 5.Nh3 *(5.f3* is also good.*)* 5...Nf6 6.Bg2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.d5 c5 9.Nf4 with a plus for White, is the subject of Kramnik-Svidler in the Archives.]
5.Nf3 White has also played the enterprising:
[5.Bh3!? Na6 another flexible reply *(5...exd4 6.Qxd4 Nc6 7.Qd1* gives White the more comfortable setup, see Zvjaginsev-Tseshkovsky in the Archives.*)* 6.dxe5 dxe5 7.Qxd8+

Bxd8 8.Nf3 Bf6 *(8...e4 9.Nd4 Bf6 10.Ndb5 Be5 11.f4 exf3 12.exf3 c6 13.0-0 Kf7 14.Re1 Bb8 15.Nd4 g6 16.Be3 Nf6 17.Rad1 Bc7 18.a3 h5 19.Bf1 h4 20.Bf2 hxg3 21.hxg3 Bd7 22.b4 Rh7 23.b5* Sevian,S (2684)-Kuybokarov,T (2566) Sharjah 157/(14) 2023 *)* 9.e4 Ne7 10.0-0 0-0 11.b3 Nc5 12.Ba3 Nxe4 13.Nxe4 fxe4 14.Bxc8 Rfxc8 15.Nd2 Nc6 16.Nxe4 Rd8 with balanced chances, Gorshtein,I (2498)-Najer,E (2662) Israel 2023 0-1 (42) 17.Bb2 a5 18.Rfd1 a4 19.Bc3 axb3 20.axb3 Rxa1 21.Rxa1 Be7 22.Kf1 Kf7 23.Ke2 Ke6 24.h4 Kf5 25.f3 h5 26.c5 Ke6 27.b4 Nd4+ 28.Kf2 Kd5 29.Bxd4 exd4 30.Ke2 Kc4 31.Rc1+ Kxb4 Gorshtein,I (2498)-Najer,E (2662) 155/19 Israel 2023 0-1]

5...e4



Now Black reacts with the e-pawn push, since (in contrast to the note to Black's 4th move above) White is forced to spend time getting the knight to its optimal square. **6.Nh4 c6** Wisely avoiding the pawn grab:

[6...Bxh4?! 0.63/20 6...c7-c6 0.14 7.gxh4 Qxh4 8.Nd5 Qd8 9.Rg1 and White has excellent play for the pawn.]

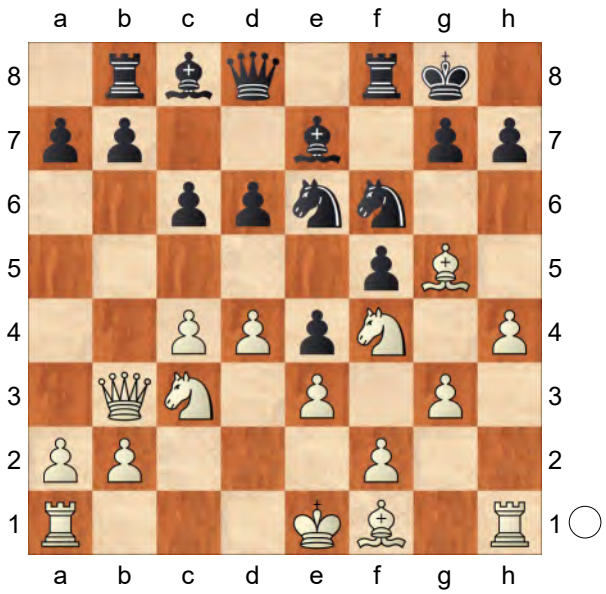
7.Ng2 For the next 5 moves, both players follow logical development plans. **7...Na6N**

[7...Nf6 8.h4 Na6 9.Nf4 0-0 10.d5 Qb6 11.e3 Nc5 12.Rb1 a5 13.Be2 Nfd7 14.b3 Bf6 15.Qc2 Video-2...c6 3.♘f3 d6]

8.h4 The position is equal. **8...Nc7 9.Qb3 Nf6 10.Bg5 0-0 11.e3 Rb8 12.Nf4 Ne6?!** 0.94/19

[12...h6 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Ng6 Re8 15.Be2 Ne6 with a tense battle ahead.]

[12...Bd7= 0.12/24 keeps the balance.]



This move (intentionally or not!) involves giving up an exchange. Funnily enough, it has been played in all three games I could find in this position, including a blitz game featuring Svidler! Black has solid alternatives, for example: **13.c5!±** White is more active. **13...d5 14.Nxe6! Bxe6 15.Bf4** Giving up the b7-pawn is not an option, so Black can choose how

to offer the exchange. **15...b6** The earlier games saw instead: **16.Bxb8 Qxb8 17.Na4** Allowing Black to transpose into the Svidler-Caruana game, but even with an extra tempo for Black!

[17.cxb6! opens at least some lines.]

17...Nd7

[17...b5 18.Nc3 a5 may not be pleasant for Black, but may be holdable, as Caruana showed.]

18.cxb6 White gets this trade in after all.

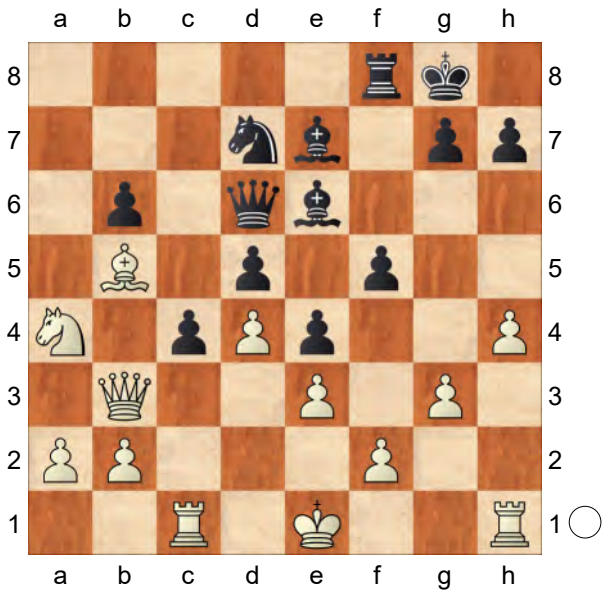
18...axb6 19.Rc1 Qd6 20.Be2

[20.Nxb6? Rb8 21.Qc3 Nxb6-+ *(21...Rxb6 22.Be2∓)*]

20...c5 21.Bb5 c4?! 1.89/20

[21...Rb8 puts the ball back in White's court]

[21...h6± 0.77/22 was necessary.]



Allowing a surprising and strong reply. Instead: **22.Qa3!+-** Forcing the trade of queens, after which it is harder for Black to defend all his weaknesses. **22...Qxa3** Otherwise, White trades with Qa3xd6 and then breaks with b2-b3 **23.bxa3 Nf6** Or:

[23...Bxa3 24.Rb1 and White will penetrate on the b-file.]

24.Rb1

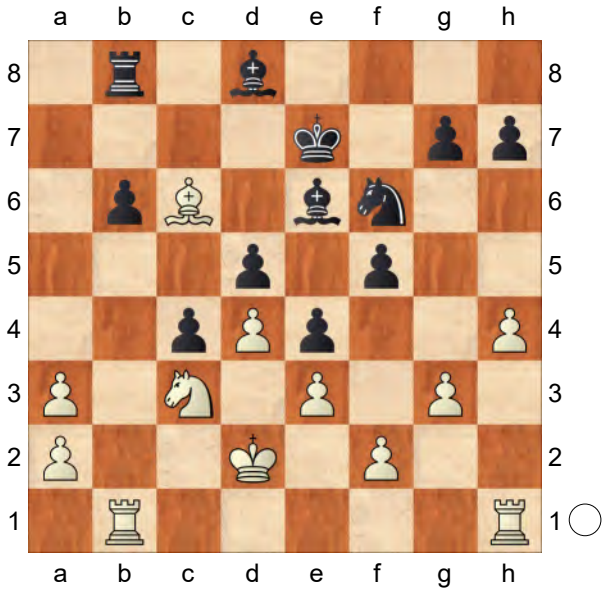
[24.Nxb6? is the wrong capture. Rb8 *(24...Bxa3 25.Rb1±)* 25.Nxd5 Nxd5-+ *(25...Bxd5? 26.a4-+)*]

24...Rb8 25.Kd2

[Resist 25.Bc6 Bd8 26.Nc5 Bc8]

25...Kf8 26.Bc6 Bd8 27.Nc3 Ke7 2.10/25

[27...Rc8 1.74/23 was worth a try.]



Black is condemned to passive defence, and White has enough freedom motion to eventually break through. **28.Rb4!** Hoping for Rb4-a4. **28...Kd6 29.Bb5** Strongly threatening Rb4-a4. **29...Kc7** 2.79/27

[29...Ra8 1.62/25 is a better defense. 30.Ra4 Rxa4 31.Bxa4 *(31.Nxa4 Ng4+-)* 31...Kc7]

30.Ra4 Kb7 31.Rb1 g6 32.Ra6 Bd7 ...Bd7xb5 would now be deadly. **33.Ra4** Black must now prevent Bb5xd7. **33...Be6 34.Kc2 Bc7 35.Ba6+ Kc6 36.Kd1 Bd8 37.Ke2 Bc7 38.Nb5 Bd8 39.Na7+ Kc7 40.Bb5 Ra8 41.Rbb4 Bd7 42.Bxd7 Kxd7 43.Nb5** Against Bd8-c7 **43...Ra5 44.Nc3** White is clearly winning. **44...Kc6**

45.Rxa5 bxa5 Endgame. KRN-KBN **46.Rb8** After a lengthy manoeuvring phase, White is getting close to a straightforward win. **46...Be7 47.Rb5 Bd8 48.Rc5+ Kd6 49.Rc8 Kd7 50.Ra8 Bb6 51.Na4 Bd8 52.Nc5+ Ke7 53.Ra7+ Ke8 54.Ne6**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.26 (precise)
1-0

D00
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**
World Rapid Championship, Almaty (5.1)
[Richard Palliser,MH]

Richard Palliser,MH: 'D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines
' MH: 'B13: Caro-Kann: Exchange Variation and Panov-Botvinnik Attack'
1.d4 Richard Palliser,MH **1...Nf6 2.Nc3 d5** Richard Palliser,MH: 'N'
[2...c5 Richard Palliser,MH 3.d5 d6 4.e4 g6 5.Nf3 *(5.f4 Bg7 6.Bb5+ Nfd7 7.a4 Na6 8.Nf3 Nc7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 e6 11.dxe6 fxe6 12.f5 Ne5 13.fxg6 hxg6 14.Be3 Bd7 15.Nxe5 Rxf1+ 16.Bxf1 Bxe5 17.Qg4 Qf6 18.Bc4 Rf8 19.Rd1 Rf7* Leisebein,P (1200)-Grott,P (1200) SE014 www.desc-online.de 2000 ½-½ *)* 5...Bg7 6.Be2 *(6.Bc4 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Bf4 Ne8 9.Re1 Nb6 10.Bf1 e5 11.dxe6 Bxe6 12.a4 Nd7 13.Nb5 Bg4 14.Nxd6 Be5 15.Bxe5 Bxf3 16.Qd5 Nc7 17.Nf5 gxf5 18.Bxc7 Qxc7 19.Qxf5 Bxg2 20.Bxg2 Rae8* Atalik,S (2561)-Epishin,V (2605) CCA-ICC op Lake George 2005 (9) ½-½ *21.Ra3 Ne5 22.Rg3+ Ng6 23.e5 Qd8 24.Qh5 Qd2 25.Rh3 h6 26.Ree3 Re6 27.Qxh6 Rd8 28.Bf1 Qc1 29.Qh7+ Kf8 30.Rhf3 Rd7 31.Rd3 Nxe5 32.Rxf7+ Nxf7 33.Rxd7 Qg5+ 34.Kh1 Rf6 35.Bc4 Qc1+* Zhang,P (2562)-Ni,H (2390) Perenyi Memorial 2000 (7) 1-0 *)* 6...Na6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bf4 Nc7 9.a4 Bg4 10.Qd2 a6 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Nd7 13.Be2 Rb8 14.Bh6 b5 15.axb5 axb5 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.b4 Chapter 5 - Egoism-Speelman vs. Hartston]
3.Bf4 a6N
[3...c5 4.e3 cxd4 5.exd4 e6 6.Nb5 Na6 7.h4 Bd7 8.c3 Be7 9.a4 0-0 10.Bd3 Bc6 11.Nf3 Ne4 12.Qe2 f5 13.g3 Bf6 14.Ng5 Qd7 15.f3 Nac5 16.Bc2 a6 17.dxc5 axb5 18.fxe4 6) 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bf4 c5-5.exd4 e6 6.Nb5 Na6 #8 The Meanest Jobava London 2023]
4.e3 b5!?
[Consistent in many ways, if far from forced. Of the alternatives, most notably Richard Palliser,MH: 'Consistent in many ways, if far from forced. Of the alternatives, most notably' 4...e6 was also met by 5.h4!? and then c5 6.g4!? - see Komodo Dragon-The Baron, World Computer Championship, Vienna 2022. Richard Palliser,MH: '- see Komodo Dragon-The Baron, World Computer Championship, Vienna 2022.']
5.h4!?
[Here too White can very much push the h-pawn, simply seizing some useful space while ignoring Black's queenside expansion. An aggressive alternative is Richard Palliser,MH: 'Here too White can very much push the h-pawn, simply seizing some useful space while ignoring Black's

queenside expansion. An aggressive alternative is' 5.a3 e6 6.g4 , as we covered in Hebden-Baker, Guernsey 2019, and which is also Simon Williams' recommendation in his Chessable course on the Jobava-Prie. Richard Palliser,MH: ', as we covered in Hebden-Baker, Guernsey 2019, and which is also Simon Williams' recommendation in his Chessable course on the Jobava-Prie. ']

[Instead, both Caruana and Duda have been happy with Richard Palliser, MH: 'Instead, both Caruana and Duda have been happy with' 5.Bd3 , but this doesn't seem especially critical: e6 *(5...b4?! 6.Na4* followed by c2-c3 and Nf3-e5 should favour White,*;* but *5...Bb7!? 6.Nce2 e6 7.Nf3 c5 8.c3 Nc6* didn't look too bad for Black in Duda-Zakhartsov, Titled Tuesday Blitz 2023, and White could do with finding something more incisive here Richard Palliser, MH: 'didn't look too bad for Black in Duda-Zakhartsov, Titled Tuesday Blitz 2023, and White could do with finding something more incisive here'*)* 6.Nf3 Bb7 7.0-0 c5 8.Ne5 was Caruana-Zakhartsov, Titled Tuesday Blitz 2022, where Black might already have gone Richard Palliser,MH: 'was Caruana-Zakhartsov, Titled Tuesday Blitz 2022, where Black might already have gone' c4!? 9.Be2 Nbd7 , which looks quite pleasant for him.]

5...h5!? 0.46/26

[A novelty, as Carlsen decides to compete for the kingside. Previously, 5...e6 6.h5 h6 7.Nf3

A) 7...c5!? 8.Ne5 Nbd7 could well be the critical line, and if Richard Palliser,MH: 'could well be the critical line, and if' 9.g4?! -0.85/25 *(9.Qf3=* -0.11/19 Richard Palliser,MH*;* *9.Qf3∓* -0.33/25 *)* 9...Bb7∓ Richard Palliser, MH: '∓' 10.Bg2 Nxe5 11.Bxe5 Nd7 with advantage to Black as White is a bit stymied on the kingside Richard Palliser,MH: 'with advantage to Black as White is a bit stymied on the kingside';

B) ⩀7...Nbd7 -0.29/20 Richard Palliser,MH;

C) 7...Nbd7∓ -0.32/29;

D) 7...Bd6 0.17/22 8.Ne5= Richard Palliser,MH: '=' Bb7 9.g4!? -0.20/24 had sounded the charge and been far from clear in Alekseenko-Bacrot, Internet (blitz) 2021. Richard Palliser,MH: 'had sounded the charge and been far from clear in Alekseenko-Bacrot, Internet (blitz) 2021.' *(9.Bd3±* 0.32/20 Richard Palliser,MH*; 9.Bd3* 0.23/24 feels stronger. *)*]

[5...e6= -0.04/24]

6.Nf3 The knight eyes both e5 and g5, and to my eyes White already has a pleasant position, although presumably the world champion might disagree. Richard Palliser,MH: 'The knight eyes both e5 and g5, and to my eyes White already has a pleasant position, although presumably the world champion might disagree.' **6...e6 7.Bd3 Bb7** 0.70/23

[7...c5!? is preferred by the engines, preventing White's next and also refusing to fear Richard Palliser,MH: 'is preferred by the engines, preventing White's next and also refusing to fear' 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.e4 on account of b4 .]

[7...c5= 0.21/24]

8.Ne2!± Now the c-pawn is free to shore up d4 and a timely Ng3 will both compete for e4 and apply some pressure to h5. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Now the c-pawn is free to shore up d4 and a timely Ng3 will both compete for e4 and apply some pressure to h5. White is slightly better.'. White is much more active. The black rooks are passive. White is slightly better. **8...c5** Richard Palliser,MH: ' And now ...c5-c4 would win.'. Hoping for ...c5-c4. **9.c3! Nbd7 10.Ng5!?** Aggressive, but consistent with 5 h4 and why not leap forward so when Black has weakened himself with ...h5? Richard Palliser,MH: 'Aggressive, but consistent with 5 h4 and why not leap forward so when Black has weakened himself with ...h5?' **10...Qb6 11.a4!** Erigaisi is fighting hard to turn his superior development into a strong initiative. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Erigaisi is fighting hard to turn his superior development into a strong initiative.' **11...c4**

[11...bxa4!? is, perhaps unsurprisingly, preferred by the engines, but even here Richard Palliser,MH: 'is, perhaps unsurprisingly, preferred by the engines, but even here' 12.0-0 Be7 *(*and not *12...Qxb2??* 4.23/19 12...Bb7-c6 0.48 Richard Palliser,MH: '12...Bf8-e7 0.35' *13.Rb1)* 13.Qc2 looks like a pleasant edge for White who has taken control of e4 and who will attack should Black try and castle. Richard Palliser,MH: 'looks like a pleasant edge for White who has taken control of e4 and who will attack should Black try and castle.']

12.Bc2 Bd6 0.87/21

[12...bxa4± 0.46/20 Richard Palliser, MH 13.0-0 *(13.Rxa4 Qxb2 14.Ra1* Black must now prevent Ra1-b1. *Qb6=; 13.Bxa4* 0.53/22 13.Qd1-b1 0.94 *a5±)* 13...Bc6]

13.0-0 Safely housing the king and Erigaisi must have been quite happy around here since it's far from obvious where Black's king will go. Richard Palliser,MH: ' ±' Richard Palliser,MH: 'Safely housing the king and Erigaisi must have been quite happy around here since it's far from obvious where Black's king will go.' **13...Ne4!?**

[A radical decision, but Carlsen presumably thought that he needed to try and change the nature of the position. Instead, Richard Palliser,MH: 'A radical decision, but Carlsen presumably thought that he needed to try and change the nature of the position. Instead,' 13...Bxf4 14.Nxf4 g6? 1.75/23 *(⌓14...bxa4* 0.94/19 Richard Palliser,MH *15.Bxa4 Bc6; 14...bxa4±* 1.10/23 was necessary. *15.Bxa4 Bc6)* 15.Qb1! would have supported both Bxg6 and b2-b3 ideas, thereby leaving Black's position creaking, Richard Palliser,MH: 'would have supported both Bxg6 and b2-b3 ideas, thereby leaving Black's position creaking,']

[and 13...0-0 14.Bxd6 Richard Palliser,MH: '!' Qxd6 15.Nf4 also feels pretty sub-optimal for Black, and if Richard Palliser,MH: 'also feels pretty sub-optimal for Black, and if' g6? 2.27/24 *(15...b4±* 0.76/22 (Richard Palliser,MH) was called for.*; 15...bxa4±* 1.04/22 *16.Nxh5 a5)* 16.Bxg6!+- Richard Palliser,MH: '+-!' fxg6 17.Qc2! Ne4 18.f3! , regaining the material with a near-decisive advantage. Richard Palliser,MH: '!']

14.Bxe4 dxe4 15.Ng3 And now Bf4xd6 would win.

[With a double-attack, but 15.Bxd6!? Qxd6 16.Ng3 Richard Palliser,MH: 'Strongly threatening a4xb5.' Nf6 17.Qc2 might have been a simpler way to win a pawn. Yes, Richard Palliser,MH: 'might have been a simpler way to win a pawn. Yes,' Qc6 1.73/19 does hold on to e4, but the reason the engines aren't keen on this is Richard Palliser,MH: 'does hold on to e4, but the reason the engines aren't keen on this is' *(17...0-0± 1.11/23* Richard Palliser,MH*; 17...0-0± 1.10/27* might work better.*)* 18.f3!+- Richard Palliser,MH: '+-!' exf3 19.Rxf3 followed by e3-e4 with a large advantage for White. Richard Palliser, MH: 'followed by e3-e4 with a large advantage for White.']

15...Be7 Black is still somewhat worse, but at least this way Carlsen is able to retain the bishop-pair. Richard Palliser, MH: 'Black is still somewhat worse, but at least this way Carlsen is able to retain the bishop-pair.' **16.Qc2** 0.70/21

[16.Nxh5 -0.38/19 16.Ng5xe4 1.06 Richard Palliser,MH g6 17.Ng7+ Kf8 18.N7xe6+! fxe6∓]

[16.N3xe4 Richard Palliser,MH f6 17.b4 -1.91/24 *(17.a5? -2.22/21* 17.f2-f3 -1.29 *Qc6-+; 17.f3∓ -1.40/25 fxg5 18.Bxg5)* 17...cxb3-+ *(17...fxg5 18.Nxg5 Qc6 19.f3∓)* 18.Qxb3 Strongly threatening Ne4-d6+! fxg5 19.Nxg5 Bxg5 20.hxg5 0-0 21.axb5 axb5-+]

[White should try 16.N5xe4± 1.26/21 Richard Palliser,MH Qc6 17.f3]

[16.Nxh5 g6 17.Ng3 Rxh4∓]

[16.N3xe4 f6∓]

16...Qc6 1.11/22

[16...Bxg5± 0.70/21 Richard Palliser, MH 17.hxg5 f5]

17.Qxe4 0.70/23 Richard Palliser,MH: 'White is more active.'

[17.axb5!? 1.11/22 Richard Palliser, MH: '±' axb5 18.Qxe4 might have been more accurate, the main point being Richard Palliser,MH: 'might have been more accurate, the main point being. Hoping for Ra1xa8+.'. aiming for Ra1xa8+. Nb6 Richard Palliser,MH: 'Simple chess, but there was again' 19.Be5! Richard Palliser,MH: '!?' Richard Palliser,MH: ', as per our last note but one.' Qxe4 1.39/23 *(19...f6? 2.61/22* 19...Be7xg5 0.99 is surely not what Black should be doing and here White has at least the simple Richard Palliser,MH: '19...Be7xg5 0.86 is surely not what Black should be doing and here White has at least the simple' *20.Qg6+ Kd7 21.Nf3; ⌓19...Bxg5* 0.90/24 Richard Palliser, MH *20.Qxc6+ Bxc6 21.Rxa8+ Bxa8)* 20.N5xe4 when White will bring a piece to d6.]

[17.N3xe4 0.20/27 17.a4xb5 0.93 Richard Palliser,MH f5 *(17...Bxg5?! 18.d5=)* 18.axb5 axb5∓]

[17.N3xe4?! f5 18.d5 exd5= *(18...Qxd5? 19.Rfd1+-; 18...Qxd5?! 19.Rfd1+-)*]

[17.axb5± 1.09/22 axb5 18.Qxe4]

17...Nb6 1.22/24

[17...bxa4!? 0.62/22 Richard Palliser, MH: '±' 18.f3 Nf8! is a bit ugly, but the engines do appear to have a point that this may also not be too terrible for Black with ...f6 on the way. Richard Palliser,MH: 'is a bit ugly, but the engines do appear to have a point that this may also not be too terrible

for Black with ...f6 on the way.']

18.axb5 axb5 19.Qxc6+

[Simple chess, but there was again 19.Be5!? , as per our last note but one.]

19...Bxc6 20.e4?! 0.77/20

[The pawn will prove a bit weak here and, as such, Richard Palliser,MH: 'The pawn will prove a bit weak here and, as such,' 20.Rxa8+ 1.18/22 Richard Palliser,MH: ' ⌓' Bxa8 21.Ra1 Na4 22.Ra2 followed by f2-f3 and e3-e4 was probably the way to go, even if White would still have had a lot of work ahead to break down Black's solid position. Richard Palliser,MH: 'followed by f2-f3 and e3-e4 was probably the way to go, even if White would still have had a lot of work ahead to break down Black's solid position.']

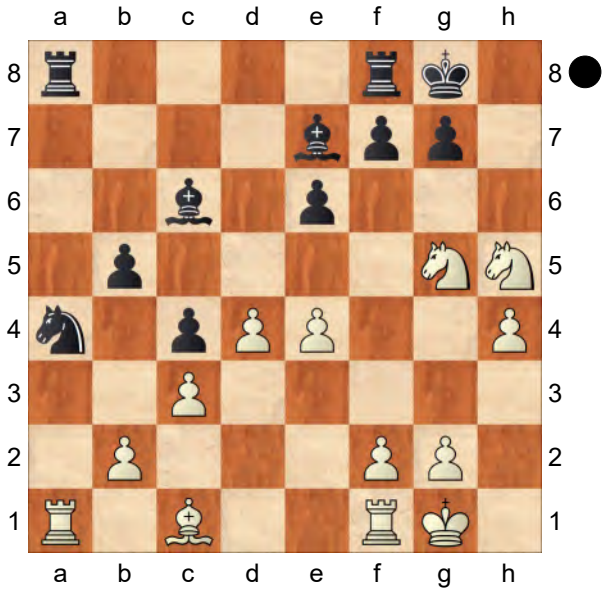
20...0-0 21.Nxh5?! 0.13/23

[Richard Palliser,MH: ' Better is' 21.f3 0.80/23 Richard Palliser,MH: ' ±' g6 22.Ne2 was surely a better try, even if your money would most likely be on a draw after Richard Palliser,MH: 'was surely a better try, even if your money would most likely be on a draw after' Rxa1! 23.Rxa1 Ra8 , and if Richard Palliser,MH: ', and if. Inhibits Ra1-a6.'. Prevents Ra1-a6. 24.Rxa8+ Bxa8 25.Kf2 Na4 26.Bc1 .]

[21.f3± 0.52/23]

21...Bxg5? 0.78/23

[Carlsen understandably heads for the safety of an opposite-bishop scenario, but he actually had even better in the shape of Richard Palliser,MH: 'Carlsen understandably heads for the safety of an opposite-bishop scenario, but he actually had even better in the shape of' 21...Na4! 0.02/23 when Black will regain the pawn on b2 with rough equality, in view of Richard Palliser,MH: '=!' 'when Black will regain the pawn on b2 with rough equality, in view of' 22.Ra2? -1.12/22 Richard Palliser, MH: ' *(22.Bc1?* -1.76/21 22.d4-d5 0. 13 Richard Palliser,MH: '22.d4-d5 0. 29



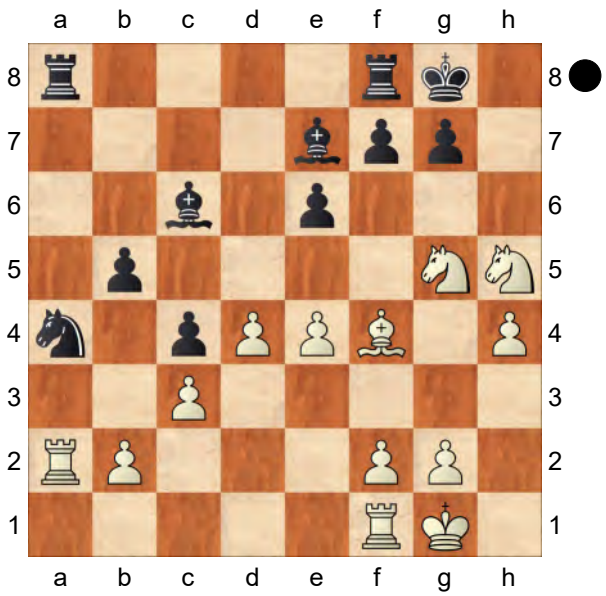
' *Nxc3!* also works*; 22.d5=* 0.25/22 (Richard Palliser,MH) keeps the balance. *exd5 23.exd5 Bxd5 24.Rfb1; 22.Ng3=* 0.08/28 *)*

(Diagram)

' 22...Nxc3!∓ Richard Palliser,MH: '∓!' 23.Rxa8 Ne2+ 24.Kh2 Rxa8 with a significant advantage. Richard Palliser,MH: 'with a significant advantage.']

[21...Na4= 0.13/23]

22.hxg5± Richard Palliser,MH: ' Ra1-e1 is the strong threat.' **22...Bxe4 23.Be5** A logical attempt to probe on the kingside. Black is back under pressure. Richard Palliser,MH: 'A logical attempt



to probe on the kingside. Black is back under pressure.' **23...Rxa1** **24.Rxa1** **Ra8** Richard Palliser,MH: ' Repels Ra1-a5'. Dodges Ra1-a5 **25.Rxa8+**

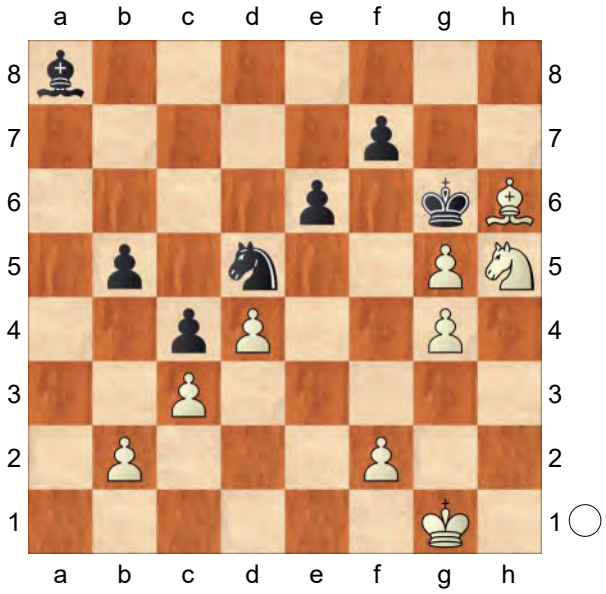
[Simple chess and even stronger than Richard Palliser,MH: 'Simple chess and even stronger than' 25.Re1!? Bg6 26.Nf4 , which also retains some pressure. Richard Palliser,MH: ', which also retains some pressure.']

25...Bxa8 Richard Palliser,MH: '±' Richard Palliser,MH: 'Endgame. KBN-KBN' **26.Bd6?** 0.11/31

[Undoing all his hard work over the previous few moves. With Black's bishop on a8, the g-pawn was edible, even it's far from clear to a human that after Richard Palliser,MH: 'Undoing all his hard work over the previous few moves. With Black's bishop on a8, the g-pawn was edible, even it's far from clear to a human that after' Richard Palliser,MH: ' White should play' 26.Bxg7! 0.99/25 Richard Palliser,MH: '±'

A) 26...Na4 Richard Palliser,MH 27.Be5 0.28/27 *(27.Bh6± 1.04/25)*;

B) 26...Kh7 27.Bh6! Nd5 1.78/29 *(27...Bb7± 0.99/25 28.Nf6+ Kg6)* 28.g4+- Kg6



29.f4! b4 2.27/27 White will be able to win. However, the engines are surely correct that this should have been tried and then Richard Palliser, MH: 'White will be able to win. However, the engines are surely correct that this should have been tried and then' *(29...Bc6* 1.66/28 is a better defense. *30.Kf2 Bb7)* 30.cxb4+- Nxb4 3.31/22 *(30...f5* 2.24/23 keeps fighting. *31.gxf6 Nxb4)* 31.Nf6+- Nd5 32.Nd7 1.97/22 *(⌓32.Nxd5* 3.31/30 *Bxd5 33.Kf2)* 32...Kh7+- 33.f5 , definitely with decent winning chances.]

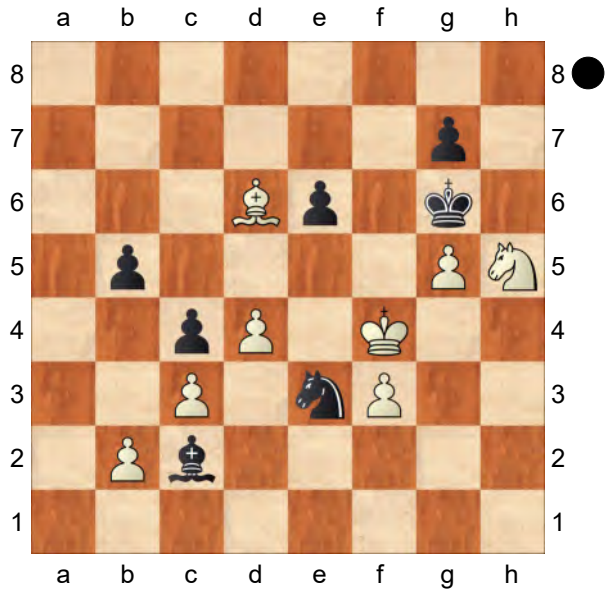
[26.Nxg7 Na4±]

[26.Bxg7± 0.87/28 Threatens to win with Bg7-e5. Na4 27.Bh6]

26...Kh7 The king now has the option of g6 and White won't be able to both attack g7 and defend b2 against ...Na4 ideas. Richard Palliser,MH: 'The king now has the option of g6 and White won't be able to both attack g7 and defend b2 against ...Na4 ideas.' **27.Nf4**

Be4! The bishop finds an even better diagonal than the so-called long one as Carlsen moves quickly to set up a blockade. Richard Palliser,MH: 'The bishop finds an even better diagonal than the so-called long one as Carlsen moves quickly to set up a blockade.' **28.f3 Bc2 29.Kf2 Nd5 30.Nh5** A final aggressive-looking move, but by now it was fairly clear that White's extra doubled g-pawn wasn't going to count for anything. Richard Palliser,MH: 'A final aggressive-looking move, but by now it was fairly clear that White's extra doubled g-pawn wasn't going to count for anything.' **30...Kg6** The position is equal. **31.g4 f5!** Forcing further exchanges. **32.Kg3 fxg4 33.fxg4**

[33.Kxg4? -1.30/35 33.f3xg4 0.04 (Richard Palliser,MH) is the wrong capture. Ne3+ 34.Kf4



Nf5! *(34...Kxh5* 0.00/38 34...Ne3-f5 -0.86 *35.Kxe3 Kxg5 36.Bf8=)* 35.Nxg7 Kxg7-+ -0.85/24 *(35...Nxd6* 0.06/20 35...Kg6xg7 -0.97 *36.Nxe6 Nf7* Against Ne6-d8 *37.d5±; 35...Nxg7? 36.Ke5-+;* ⌓*35...Nxg7* -1.24/28 *36.Ke5 Kxg5)*]

[33.Kxg4? is the wrong capture. Ne3+ 34.Kf4 Nf5 *(34...Kxh5?! 35.Kxe3 Kxg5 36.Kd2=)* 35.Nxg7 Kxg7-+ *(35...Nxd6?! 36.Nxe6 Bf5 37.d5=)*]

33...Kf7 34.Nf4 Nxf4 35.Kxf4= Richard Palliser,MH: '=' Richard Palliser, MH: ' KB-KB'

[Don't do 35.Bxf4 Kg6±]

35...g6 36.Ke5 It's an active king, but unfortunately for White the opposition bishop can hardly be described either as inactive. Richard Palliser,MH: 'It's an active king, but unfortunately for White the opposition bishop can hardly be described either as inactive.' **36...Bd1 37.Bc5 Bxg4 38.Kd6 Bd1 39.Kc6 Ba4** Admittedly now the bishop is far from active, but Black can shuffle the king and, unsurprisingly, the players were now quick to agree to split the point. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Admittedly now the bishop is far from active, but Black can shuffle the king and, unsurprisingly, the players were now quick to agree to split the point.' **40.Bb4 Ke8 41.Kd6 Kf7 42.d5** 0.01/40

[42.Ba5± 0.51/31 Richard Palliser, MH]

42...exd5 43.Kxd5 Bb3 44.Kc6 Richard Palliser,MH: '
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise) '.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
½-½

C48
□ **Van Foreest,Jorden** 2680
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** 2701
Sigeman & Co 28th_1796 (5) 08.05.2023
[Van Foreest, Jorden]

1.e4 Van Foreest,Jorden **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bb5** In my previous encounters with Arjun, he had consistently caught me off guard with his opening choices. I decided that for this game, at least I wanted to be the first to surprise him. Certainly he would not have anticipated me to play the four knights variation, as it is not too popular at the highest level.In meinen früheren Begegnungen mit Arjun hatte er mich immer wieder mit seinen Eröffnungsentscheidungen überrascht. Ich beschloss, dass ich in dieser Partie zumindest der Erste sein wollte, der ihn überrascht. Sicherlich hätte er nicht erwartet, dass ich das Vierspringerspiel wählen würde, da es auf höchstem Niveau nicht allzu beliebt ist. **4...Bd6** A small surprise in return, as 4...Nd4 is by far the main-line. Still, I was quite happy to see this move as now we just get a game without too much heavy theory. Eine kleine Überraschung im Gegenzug, da 4...Sd4 bei weitem die Hauptvariante ist. Dennoch war ich recht froh, diesen Zug zu sehen, da wir jetzt einfach eine Partie ohne allzu viel Theorie bekommen. **5.d3 0-0 6.Ba4** A subtle idea that was still part of my preparation. With this move I effectively preempt any potential attack on my bishop through ...Nd4. Moreover, later the bishop can be brought back to c2 or b3 in typical Ruy-Lopez fashion. Eine subtile Idee, die noch Teil meiner Vorbereitung war. Mit diesem Zug komme ich einem möglichen Angriff auf meinen Läufer durch ...Sd4 effektiv zuvor. Außerdem kann der Läufer später in typischer Spanisch-Manier nach c2 oder b3 zurückgebracht werden. **6...a6**

[6...h6 Ordinarily, this would be considered a favorable move, yet given that White has not yet castled, it poses a significant risk for Black as it leaves him potentially vulnerable to a strong attack.Normalerweise würde dieser Zug als vorteilhaft gelten, doch da Weiß noch nicht rochiert hat, stellt er ein erhebliches Risiko für Schwarz dar, da er ihn für einen starken Angriff verwundbar macht. 7.g4! With a dangerous initiative for White. Mit einer gefährlichen Initiative für Weiß.]

7.0-0 h6 7...h6 scores better than 7...b5. Now that White has castled, this move can be made without any concerns. 7...h6 punktet besser als 7...b5. Jetzt, wo Weiß rochiert hat, kann dieser Zug ohne Bedenken ausgeführt werden. **8.Ne2** While shifting the knight to g3 is undoubtedly a viable strategy, it might have been more judicious to maintain the knight's position on c3, and pursue development along an a3-Be3-Bb3 trajectory. This approach could potentially offer a slight advantage. Während die Verlagerung des Springers nach g3 zweifellos eine praktikable Strategie ist, wäre es vielleicht klüger gewesen, die Stellung des Springers auf c3 beizubehalten und die Entwicklung entlang der Linie a3-Le3-Lb3 zu verfolgen. Dieser Ansatz könnte möglicherweise einen leichten Vorteil bieten. **8...Re8**

[8...b5 9.Bb3 Na5 I was not worried about this immediate attempt to catch

my bishop, as Black is still unprepared to meet my central thrust. Ich war nicht besorgt über diesen sofortigen Versuch, meinen Läufer zu fangen, da Schwarz immer noch nicht darauf vorbereitet ist, meinem zentralen Vorstoß zu begegnen. 10.d4! Re8 11.dxe5 Bxe5 12.Nxe5 Rxe5 13.f3 I had forseen this position, and judged it to be slightly better for White. Ich hatte diese Stellung vorausgesehen und schätzte sie als leicht besser für Weiß ein.]

9.Bd2N My first thought was to play 9. c3, but that actually slightly weakens the structure in case of an eventual ...d7-d5. Moreover, with the text I keep the idea of playing c4 at a later moment alive. Mein erster Gedanke war, 9.c3 zu spielen, aber das schwächt die Struktur im Falle eines eventuellen ...d7-d5 etwas. Außerdem halte ich mit dem Text die Idee am Leben, zu einem späteren Zeitpunkt c4 zu spielen.

[Predecessor: 9.Ng3?! The most played move, but this is dubious right here, as it allows Black to gain the pair of bishops.Der meistgespielte Zug, der aber gerade hier fragwürdig ist, da er Schwarz erlaubt, das Läuferpaar zu gewinnen. Bf8 *(9...b5 10.Bb3 Na5* Already, I slightly prefer Black's position. Ich bevorzuge schon jetzt leicht die schwarze Stellung.*)* 10.c4 d6 11.h3 Bd7 12.Be3 Ne7 13.d4 Bxa4 14.Qxa4 exd4 15.Nxd4 Sardy,P (2401)-Vajda,S (2298) HUN-chT 2223 2022 (5.11) ½-½]

9...Rb8 An exceptionally astute move, specifically designed to counter a potential c2-c4 advance. Furthermore, in the event of a subsequent b7-b5 move, the rook positioned on b8 will typically offer a slight advantage over being stationed on a8.Ein außerordentlich kluger Zug, der einen möglichen c2-c4-Vorstoß kontern soll. Außerdem bietet der Turm auf b8 im Falle eines nachfolgenden Zuges b7-b5 in der Regel einen leichten Vorteil gegenüber dem auf a8 stehenden Turm. **10.Ng3 b5** Another accurate move. I was hoping that Arjun would move his bishop to either f8 or c5 first.Ein weiterer korrekter Zug. Ich hatte gehofft, dass Arjun seinen Läufer zuerst entweder nach f8 oder c5 ziehen würde.

[10...Bc5 11.Bxc6! And whichever way Black recaptures, White will have a slight advantage.Und egal, wie Schwarz zurückschlägt, Weiß hat einen leichten Vorteil. dxc6 *(11...bxc6 12.Bc3 d6 13.b3±)* 12.h3 A typical position for the Berlin, but White has already managed to transfer the knight to g3 while Black seems to have made some less useful moves in the meantime. Eine typische Berliner Stellung, aber Weiß hat es bereits geschafft, den Springer nach g3 zu bringen, während Schwarz in der Zwischenzeit einige weniger nützliche Züge gemacht zu haben scheint.]

11.Bb3 Bf8 A solid choice, from here the bishop always defends the king, effectively making it difficult for White to initiate any play on the kingside. Eine solide Wahl, denn von hier aus verteidigt der Läufer immer den König, was es für Weiß schwierig macht, ein Spiel am Königsflügel zu initiieren.

[11...Bc5 12.Qc1]

12.a4 This move is logical but lacks significant impact. Perhaps 12.Re1 would have been slightly better.

Interestingly, the position bears a striking resemblance to the 8.a4 Rb8 Anti-Marshall that was popular during the Nepomniachtchi-Carlsen 2021 match. However, a key difference here is that the white knight is positioned on g3 instead of c3. I don't think the knight is contributing significantly from g3, and therefore Black likely has achieved an equalizing position.Dieser Zug ist logisch, hat aber keine große Wirkung. Vielleicht wäre 12.Te1 etwas besser gewesen. Interessanterweise hat die Stellung eine verblüffende Ähnlichkeit mit dem Anti-Marschall 8.a4 Tb8, der während des Matches Nepomniachtchi-Carlsen 2021 beliebt war. Ein wesentlicher Unterschied ist jedoch, dass der weiße Springer auf g3 statt auf c3 steht. Ich glaube nicht, dass der Springer von g3 aus einen nennenswerten Beitrag leistet, und daher hat Schwarz wahrscheinlich eine ausgeglichene Stellung erreicht. **12...d6** A solid choice, although there wasn't anything wrong with 12...d5 either. Eine solide Wahl, obwohl auch an 12...d5 nichts auszusetzen war. **13.axb5 axb5 14.c3 Be6** Right around this point I understood that any hopes for an opening advantage had disappeared, and I tried to steer the game toward a more or less equal position. I felt that if I am not careful I could end up slightly worse if Black gets in ...d7-d5 under favorable circumstances.Genau zu diesem Zeitpunkt begriff ich, dass alle Hoffnungen auf einen Eröffnungsvorteil verschwunden waren, und ich versuchte, die Partie in eine mehr oder weniger ausgeglichene Stellung zu lenken. Ich hatte das Gefühl, dass ich, wenn ich nicht aufpasse, etwas schlechter stehen könnte, wenn Schwarz unter günstigen Umständen ...d7-d5 spielt. **15.Bxe6**

[15.Ra6 I spent some time calculating this move, but Arjun pointed out a very nice idea to me after the game. Ich habe einige Zeit damit verbracht, diesen Zug zu berechnen, aber Arjun hat mich nach der Partie auf eine sehr gute Idee hingewiesen. Qc8! As it turns out, White can not take on c6 due to ...Qb7 trapping the rook, and therefore the rook has to move back. Wie sich herausstellt, kann Weiß aufgrund von ...Db7, was den Turm fängt, nicht auf c6 nehmen, und daher muss der Turm zurückziehen.]

15...Rxe6 16.d4 d5 A last accurate move, after which Black has equalized. Ein letzter präziser Zug, nach dem Schwarz den Ausgleich geschafft hat. **17.dxe5 Nxe4** Strangely enough, after this logical capture the Black position starts becoming slightly unpleasant. Seltsamerweise beginnt die schwarze Stellung nach diesem logischen Schlagen etwas unangenehm zu werden.

[17...Nxe5 Might have been the easiest way to steer the game towards a draw.Das wäre vielleicht der einfachste Weg gewesen, die Partie in Richtung eines Unentschiedens zu lenken. 18.Nxe5 Rxe5 19.Bf4 Re6 20.e5 Ne4 21.Nxe4 dxe4 After some trades, the smoke has cleared and the resulting position can be judged as effectively very equal. White can't even easily get to the e4-pawn, as Black always has ...Qd3 as a resource, or even ...g5 as an idea. Nach einigen Zügen hat sich der Rauch gelichtet, und die resultierende Stellung kann als

effektiv sehr ausgeglichen bewertet werden. Weiß kann nicht einmal leicht an den e4-Bauern herankommen, da Schwarz immer ...Dd3 als Ressource hat, oder sogar ...g5 als Idee.]

18.Nd4! In this manner, I ensure that my pawn on e5 stays alive.Auf diese Weise stelle ich sicher, dass mein Bauer auf e5 am Leben bleibt. **18...Nxd4 19.cxd4** Although I was not very optimistic around this point, I understood that at least I have a simple idea of playing f4-f5, with an attack, and it's not altogether obvious how Black should deal with this idea. Obwohl ich an diesem Punkt nicht sehr optimistisch war, verstand ich, dass ich zumindest eine einfache Idee habe, f4-f5 zu spielen, mit einem Angriff, und es ist nicht ganz klar, wie Schwarz mit dieser Idee umgehen sollte. **19...Nxg3** I was slightly surprised that Arjun captured immediately on g3, as 19...c5 seemed more logical to me. Still, after 20.Be3 I guess Black has to capture on g3 sooner or later. Ich war etwas überrascht, dass Arjun sofort auf g3 schlug, da mir 19...c5 logischer erschien. Dennoch, nach 20. Le3 muss Schwarz früher oder später auf g3 schlagen. **20.hxg3 c5 21.Be3 Rc8?!** The first slight mistake in the game. A better approach would have been to instigate a counter-offensive on the queenside with 21...c4, leveraging the pawn majority to generate potential threats. Der erste kleine Fehler in der Partie. Ein besserer Ansatz wäre gewesen, mit 21...c4 einen Gegenangriff am Damenflügel zu starten und die Bauernmehrheit zu nutzen, um potenzielle Drohungen zu erzeugen.

[21...c4 22.f4 b4 23.f5 Rc6 24.Qh5 Things look quite dangerous for Black in a situation like this, but there appears to be enough counterplay on the queenside for Black.In einer solchen Situation sieht es für Schwarz ziemlich gefährlich aus, aber es scheint genug Gegenspiel am Damenflügel für Schwarz zu geben. *(24.f6 c3 25.Qh5* transposes to the variation below .geht über zur Variante unten.*)* 24...c3 25.f6 transposes to the variation below. geht über zur Variante unten. gxf6 A cold-blooded decision! The rook on c6 is an extremely useful piece here, both sustaining the advance of the c-pawn both also being useful in defence. White can try several things, but Black is fine everywhere here. Eine kaltblütige Entscheidung! Der Turm auf c6 ist hier eine äußerst nützliche Figur, die sowohl den Vormarsch des c-Bauern unterstützt als auch in der Verteidigung nützlich ist. Weiß kann mehrere Dinge versuchen, aber Schwarz steht hier überall gut.]

22.f4 cxd4 23.Bxd4 Bc5 Arjun is aiming to simplify, but White's robust pawn chain extending from g3 to e5 ensures firm control over the position. Consequently, it's clear that Black is now in a somewhat less favorable position. TArjun versucht zu vereinfachen, aber die robuste Bauernkette, die sich von g3 bis e5 erstreckt, sorgt dafür, dass Weiß die Stellung fest im Griff hat. Folglich ist es klar, dass sich Schwarz nun in einer etwas ungünstigeren Stellung befindet. T **24.Kh2 Re8 25.Ra6!** A good move, improving the rook, which can now act along the sixth rank.Ein guter Zug, der den Turm verbessert, der nun auf der

sechsten Reihe agieren kann. **25...Bxd4** [25...Re6 I had expected Arjun to reply with this, offering the exchange of rooks. Still, White remains slightly better as Black's king remains weak. Ich hatte erwartet, dass Arjun mit dem Angebot des Turmtauschs antworten würde. Dennoch steht Weiß etwas besser, da der schwarze König schwach bleibt. 26.Rxe6 fxe6 27.Bxc5 Rxc5 28.Qg4 Attacking the e6-pawn, and intending Ra1 next. Black's position is defensible but White has all the fun.Greift den e6-Bauern an und beabsichtigt Ta1. Die schwarze Stellung ist verteidigungsfähig, aber Weiß hat den ganzen Spaß.]

26.Rd6!? A cute little intermezzo. Ein nettes kleines Intermezzo. **26...Qc7 27.Qxd4 Qc4!** Exchanging the queens just in time. If White would be allowed to keep the queens on the board and pick up the d5-pawn, the position would already be close to winning. Der Damentausch kommt gerade noch rechtzeitig. Hätte Weiß die Möglichkeit, die Damen auf dem Brett zu behalten und den d5-Bauern zu holen, wäre die Stellung schon fast gewonnen. **28.Rd1 Qxd4 29.Rxd4 Rc2** Around this juncture I spent a lot of time, as the rook endgame was very interesting and there were a lot of things to consider. In the end, I could not quite figure out the best way to put pressure on Black. In dieser Phase verbrauchte ich viel Zeit, da das Turmendspiel sehr interessant war und es eine Menge Dinge zu bedenken gab. Am Ende konnte ich nicht ganz herausfinden, wie ich Schwarz am besten unter Druck setzen konnte. **30.Rb4** Probably both b3 or b4 would have offered the best winning chances instead.Wahrscheinlich hätten b3 oder b4 stattdessen die besten Gewinnchancen geboten.

[30.b3 A very interesting idea, later down the lines it can be beneficial for the pawn the block the third rank. Eine sehr interessante Idee, später in der Variante kann es für den Bauern von Vorteil sein, die dritte Reihe zu blockieren. Ra8 31.R4xd5 Raa2 32.Kh3 Rxg2 33.Rxb5 h5 34.Kh4 Imagine White's pawn being on b4, Black has the resource 34...Ra3, attacking the g3-pawn. Now that the pawn is on b3 Black has to look for different ways of creating counterplay. Stellen Sie sich vor, der weiße Bauer steht auf b4, Schwarz hat das Mittel 34...Ta3, um den g3-Bauern anzugreifen. Jetzt, da der Bauer auf b3 steht, muss Schwarz nach anderen Möglichkeiten suchen, um Gegenspiel zu erzeugen. Kh7 35.Rb7 Rg1 36.Rxf7 Rag2 37.Kg5 Rxg3+ 38.Kf5 Rxb3 39.Rf8 Rf1! The only move. Der einzige Zug. 40.Rdd8 g6+ 41.Ke6 Rb6+ 42.Rd6 Rb7 After a series of very accurate defensive moves, Black should make the draw. Nach einer Reihe von sehr präzisen Verteidigungszügen sollte Schwarz das Remis erreichen.]

[30.b4 Another serious attempt. Ein weiterer ernsthafter Versuch. Ra8 *(30...Rc4* Also possible, but completely inhuman.Auch möglich, aber völlig unmenschlich. *31.R6xd5 Rec8 32.f5 Rxd4 33.Rxd4 Rc4 34.Rxc4 bxc4 35.b5 c3 36.b6 c2 37.b7 c1Q 38.b8Q+ Kh7* This ain't fun for Black, but is objectively a draw. Das ist kein Spaß für Schwarz,

aber objektiv ist es ein Remis.*)* 31.R6xd5 It is by no means obvious which rook white should capture on d5, but in this case, taking with this specific rook appears to be the best try, as the other rook can defend the third rank from d3.Es ist keineswegs offensichtlich, welchen Turm Weiß auf d5 schlagen sollte, aber in diesem Fall scheint es der beste Versuch zu sein, mit diesem speziellen Turm zu schlagen, da der andere Turm die dritte Reihe von d3 aus verteidigen kann. Raa2 32.Kh3 Rxg2 *(32...Kh7)* 33.Kg4 The best attempt. The white king tries to run to f5, and form a mating net around the Black king. Black should defend extremely accurately now not to lose the game. Der beste Versuch. Der weiße König versucht, nach f5 zu laufen und ein Mattnetz um den schwarzen König zu bilden. Schwarz sollte sich jetzt extrem genau verteidigen, um die Partie nicht zu verlieren. *(33.Rxb5* With the pawn on b3 this is an interesting idea, but now Black has the ...Ra3 resource.Mit dem Bauern auf b3 ist das eine interessante Idee, aber jetzt hat Schwarz die Ressource ...Ta3. *h5 34.Kh4 Ra3)* 33...g6 The only move !Der einzige Zug! 34.Rd3 Kg7 35.Rxb5 Rae2 36.Rb7 h5+ 37.Kg5 Re4 This is the defensive mechanism that Stockfish tries to achieve. It looks awfully dangerous for Black, but there seems to be enough counter threats to the White king to prevent White from running the b-pawn to promotion. Dies ist der Verteidigungsmechanismus, den Stockfish zu erreichen versucht. Es sieht furchtbar gefährlich für Schwarz aus, aber es scheint genug Gegendrohungen für den weißen König zu geben, um Weiß daran zu hindern, den b-Bauern zur Umwandlung zu führen. Dabei ist 38.Rb3 Rge2 39.b5 Ra4 40.b6 Rxe5+ Being a key-defensive idea. eine Schlüsselverteidigungsidee.]

30...Rc5 31.Rd4

[31.Kh3 Another interesting try suggests by the engines. White does not immediately try to capture one of the pawns, but instead slightly improves the king and leaves Black in the dark as to how White will proceed from this point onward.Ein weiterer interessanter Versuch wird von den Maschinen vorgeschlagen. Weiß versucht nicht sofort, einen der Bauern zu schlagen, sondern verbessert den König leicht und lässt Schwarz im Unklaren darüber, wie Weiß von nun an vorgehen wird. Ra8 32.Rb3]

31...Rc2 32.R4xd5 Probably the worst try of all. I had hopes of creating strong pressure on f7, and finally breaking through with e6, but really I should have kept the b-pawn alive.Wahrscheinlich der schlechteste Versuch von allen. Ich hatte die Hoffnung, starken Druck auf f7 zu erzeugen und schließlich mit e6 durchzubrechen, aber eigentlich hätte ich den b-Bauern am Leben lassen sollen. **32...Rxb2 33.Rb6 h5**

[33...Ra8 Black isn't quick enough to adopt an aggressive stance, as White's rooks on the seventh rank are stronger than Black's rooks situated on the second rankSchwarz ist nicht schnell genug, um eine aggressive Haltung einzunehmen, da die weißen

Türme auf der siebten Reihe stärker sind als die schwarzen Türme auf der zweiten Reihe 34.Rd7 Raa2 35.Kh3 Rxg2 36.Rb8+ Kh7 37.Kg4+-]

34.Rb7 Re2 The right square for the rook as it stops the e5-e6 advance. Das richtige Feld für den Turm, da es den Vorstoß e5-e6 verhindert.

[34...b4 35.Rdd7 Rf8 36.e6 would be catastrophic. wäre katastrophal.]

35.Rdd7 Rf8 36.Kh3 g6 37.Rxb5 Generally a 4 vs 3 rook endgame is easily drawn, but here with the presence of 4 rooks it is not as easy. Both kings are constantly under danger. Normalerweise ist ein Endspiel mit 4 gegen 3 Türmen leicht remis, aber hier ist es mit 4 Türmen nicht so einfach. Beide Könige sind ständig in Gefahr.

37...Kg7?! An inaccuracy, which could have given me serious winning chances once again.Eine Ungenauigkeit, die mir wieder einmal ernsthafte Gewinnchancen beschert hätte.

38.Rbb7 Missing a serious chance. Verpasst eine große Chance.

[38.Rb6! Would still have put serious pressure on the Black position. I only noticed the idea of placing a rook on the sixth rank later. From the sixth rank, the idea of e5-e6 is created and the rook can swing to f6, creating pressure on the f7-pawn.Das hätte immer noch ernsthaften Druck auf die schwarze Stellung ausgeübt. Die Idee, einen Turm auf der sechsten Reihe zu platzieren, ist mir erst später aufgefallen. Von der sechsten Reihe aus entsteht die Idee von e5-e6, und der Turm kann nach f6 ziehen, wodurch Druck auf den f7-Bauern entsteht. Kg8 39.Rf6 Kg7 40.Rb7 Puts Black in some sort of zugzwang, as moving the king loses on the spot. Therefore, Black has to move the rook from its deal position on e2. Das bringt Schwarz in eine Art Zugzwang, denn wenn er den König zieht, verliert er auf der Stelle. Daher muss Schwarz den Turm von seiner Geschäftsposition auf e2 bewegen. Rf2 The best square for the rook. It turns out that keeping an eye on the f4-pawn in important. I have done some analysis here, but it seems that Black is able to hold, but only barely in all variations. Nevertheless, it would have been a good try. A sample line goes as follows:Das beste Feld für den Turm. Es stellt sich heraus, dass es wichtig ist, den f4-Bauern im Auge zu behalten. Ich habe hier einige Analysen gemacht, aber es scheint, dass Schwarz in der Lage ist, zu halten, aber nur knapp in allen Varianten. Trotzdem wäre es ein guter Versuch gewesen. Eine beispielhafte Variante sieht wie folgt aus: 41.Ra7 Re2 42.Rb6 Rf2 43.e6 Rf1 44.Kh2 g5□ 45.fxg5 *(45.Rd6 Re8 46.Rd5 gxf4 47.Rxf7+ Kg6 48.Rxf4 Re1=)* 45...Rc8□ 46.g4 hxg4□ 47.Kg3 Rc3+ 48.Kh4 Rh1+ 49.Kxg4 Rc4+□ 50.Kg3 Rc3+□ 51.Kf2 Rc2+□=]

38...Re1 39.Kh2 Kg8 40.g4 Not the best try, but I could not see anything better.Nicht der beste Versuch, aber ich sah nichts Besseres. **40...hxg4 41.Kg3 Re2** In fact, 41...g5 would have drawn on the spot and I expected the game to end any minute.Tatsächlich hätte 41...g5 auf der Stelle remis gemacht, und ich erwartete, dass die Partie jeden Moment enden würde.

42.Re7 Kg7 43.Ra7 Kg8 44.Rab7 Kg7 45.Rb6 A last attempt. Finally, I noticed a small idea of bringing the rook to f6, followed by bringing the king to g5 via h4... Ein letzter Versuch. Schließlich bemerkte ich eine kleine Idee, den Turm nach f6 zu bringen, gefolgt von der Verlegung des Königs nach g5 über h4... **45...Kh8 46.Ra6 Kh7 47.Rf6 Kg8??** A huge blunder, at the very very end after good defense.Ein großer Fehler, ganz zum Schluss nach guter Verteidigung.

[47...Kg7 48.Kh4 Rxg2 49.Kg5 Arjun saw some ghosts here, but everything is a dead draw.Arjun hat hier ein paar Geister gesehen, aber alles ist tot remis. Rh2! Being the simplest, threatening ...Rh5+ and forcing White to make a draw. ist am einfachsten, es droht Th5 und zwingt Weiß Remis zu machen.
50.Rxg6+ Kh8 51.Rh6+ Rxh6 52.Kxh6 g3 53.Ra7=]

48.e6 All of a sudden, White is winning. Plötzlich steht Weiß auf Gewinn.

48...Rxe6 49.Rexe6 fxe6 50.Rxf8+ Kxf8 51.Kxg4

1-0

B96

□ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2680**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
Sigeman & Co 28th_1796 (5) 08.05.2023
[Van Foreest,Jorden]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 In my previous encounters with Arjun, he had consistently caught me off guard with his opening choices. I decided that for this game, at least I wanted to be the first to surprise him. Certainly he would not have anticipated me to play the four knights variation, as it is not too popular at the highest level.In meinen früheren Begegnungen mit Arjun hatte er mich immer wieder mit seinen Eröffnungsentscheidungen überrascht. Ich beschloss, dass ich in dieser Partie zumindest der Erste sein wollte, der ihn überrascht. Sicherlich hätte er nicht erwartet, dass ich das Vierspringerspiel wählen würde, da es auf höchstem Niveau nicht allzu beliebt ist. **4...Nf6** A small surprise in return, as 4...Nd4 is by far the main-line. Still, I was quite happy to see this move as now we just get a game without too much heavy theory. Eine kleine Überraschung im Gegenzug, da 4...Sd4 bei weitem die Hauptvariante ist. Dennoch war ich recht froh, diesen Zug zu sehen, da wir jetzt einfach eine Partie ohne allzu viel Theorie bekommen. **5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5** A subtle idea that was still part of my preparation. With this move I effectively preempt any potential attack on my bishop through ...Nd4. Moreover, later the bishop can be brought back to c2 or b3 in typical Ruy-Lopez fashion. Eine subtile Idee, die noch Teil meiner Vorbereitung war. Mit diesem Zug komme ich einem möglichen Angriff auf meinen Läufer durch ...Sd4 effektiv zuvor. Außerdem kann der Läufer später in typischer Spanisch-Manier nach c2 oder b3 zurückgebracht werden. **6...e6 7.f4 h6** Now that White has castled, this move can be made without any concerns. Jetzt, wo Weiß rochiert hat, kann dieser Zug ohne Bedenken ausgeführt werden. **8.Bh4** While shifting the knight to g3 is undoubtedly a viable strategy, it might have been more judicious to maintain the knight's

position on c3, and pursue development along an a3-Be3-Bb3 trajectory. This approach could potentially offer a slight advantage .Während die Verlagerung des Springers nach g3 zweifellos eine praktikable Strategie ist, wäre es vielleicht klüger gewesen, die Stellung des Springers auf c3 beizubehalten und die Entwicklung entlang der Linie a3-Le3-Lb3 zu verfolgen. Dieser Ansatz könnte möglicherweise einen leichten Vorteil bieten. **8...Nbd7 9.Qe2** My first thought was to play 9.c3, but that actually slightly weakens the structure in case of an eventual ...d7-d5. Moreover, with the text I keep the idea of playing c4 at a later moment alive.Mein erster Gedanke war, 9.c3 zu spielen, aber das schwächt die Struktur im Falle eines eventuellen ...d7-d5 etwas. Außerdem halte ich mit dem Text die Idee am Leben, zu einem späteren Zeitpunkt c4 zu spielen. **9...e5** An exceptionally astute move, specifically designed to counter a potential c2-c4 advance. Furthermore, in the event of a subsequent b7-b5 move, the rook positioned on b8 will typically offer a slight advantage over being stationed on a8. Ein außerordentlich kluger Zug, der einen möglichen c2-c4-Vorstoß kontern soll. Außerdem bietet der Turm auf b8 im Falle eines nachfolgenden Zuges b7-b5 in der Regel einen leichten Vorteil gegenüber dem auf a8 stehenden Turm. **10.fxe5**

[10.0-0-0 exd4 Things look quite dangerous for Black in a situation like this, but there appears to be enough counterplay on the queenside for Black.In einer solchen Situation sieht es für Schwarz ziemlich gefährlich aus, aber es scheint genug Gegenspiel am Damenflügel für Schwarz zu geben. 11.e5 dxe5 transposes to the variation below. geht über zur Variante unten. 12.fxe5 A cold-blooded decision! The rook on c6 is an extremely useful piece here, both sustaining the advance of the c-pawn both also being useful in defence. White can try several things, but Black is fine everywhere here. Eine kaltblütige Entscheidung! Der Turm auf c6 ist hier eine äußerst nützliche Figur, die sowohl den Vormarsch des c-Bauern unterstützt als auch in der Verteidigung nützlich ist. Weiß kann mehrere Dinge versuchen, aber Schwarz steht hier überall gut. Be7 13.exf6 Nxf6 transposes to the variation below. geht über zur Variante unten. 14.Bxf6 Might have been the easiest way to steer the game towards a draw. Das wäre vielleicht der einfachste Weg gewesen, die Partie in Richtung eines Unentschiedens zu lenken. gxf6]

10...Nxe5 Another accurate move. I was hoping that Arjun would move his bishop to either f8 or c5 first.Ein weiterer korrekter Zug. Ich hatte gehofft, dass Arjun seinen Läufer zuerst entweder nach f8 oder c5 ziehen würde.

[10...dxe5]

11.0-0-0

[11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.Nd5 Qd8 Attacking the e6-pawn, and intending Ra1 next. Black's position is defensible but White has all the fun. Greift den e6-Bauern an und beabsichtigt Ta1. Die schwarze Stellung ist verteidigungsfähig, aber Weiß hat den ganzen Spaß. 13.Nf3 Qa5+ 14.b4]

11...Be7 A solid choice, from here the bishop always defends the king, effectively making it difficult for White to initiate any play on the kingside. Eine solide Wahl, denn von hier aus verteidigt der Läufer immer den König, was es für Weiß schwierig macht, ein Spiel am Königsflügel zu initiieren.
12.Rg1 This move is logical but lacks significant impact. Perhaps 12.Re1 would have been slightly better. Interestingly, the position bears a striking resemblance to the 8.a4 Rb8 Anti-Marshall that was popular during the Nepomniachtchi-Carlsen 2021 match. However, a key difference here is that the white knight is positioned on g3 instead of c3. I don't think the knight is contributing significantly from g3, and therefore Black likely has achieved an equalizing position.Dieser Zug ist logisch, hat aber keine große Wirkung. Vielleicht wäre 12.Te1 etwas besser gewesen. Interessanterweise hat die Stellung eine verblüffende Ähnlichkeit mit dem Anti-Marschall 8.a4 Tb8, der während des Matches Nepomniachtchi-Carlsen 2021 beliebt war. Ein wesentlicher Unterschied ist jedoch, dass der weiße Springer auf g3 statt auf c3 steht. Ich glaube nicht, dass der Springer von g3 aus einen nennenswerten Beitrag leistet, und daher hat Schwarz wahrscheinlich eine ausgeglichene Stellung erreicht.

[12.Nf3 Qa5 13.Nxe5 Qxe5 14.Bg3 This ain't fun for Black, but is objectively a draw.Das ist kein Spaß für Schwarz, aber objektiv ist es ein Remis. Qg5+ I had expected Arjun to reply with this, offering the exchange of rooks. Still, White remains slightly better as Black's king remains weak. Ich hatte erwartet, dass Arjun mit dem Angebot des Turmtauschs antworten würde. Dennoch steht Weiß etwas besser, da der schwarze König schwach bleibt. 15.Qd2]

12...Be6 A solid choice, although there wasn't anything wrong with 12...d5 either. Eine solide Wahl, obwohl auch an 12...d5 nichts auszusetzen war.

[12...0-0 13.g4 Bxg4 Being a key-defensive idea. eine Schlüsselverteidigungsidee. *(13...Nxe4 14.Nxe4 Bxh4 15.Nf5 d5 16.Nxh4 Qxh4 17.Rxd5 Bxg4)* 14.Qg2 With the pawn on b3 this is an interesting idea, but now Black has the ...Ra3 resource.Mit dem Bauern auf b3 ist das eine interessante Idee, aber jetzt hat Schwarz die Ressource ...Ta3. g6 15.Be2 Bxe2 16.Ncxe2 Nfg4 Also possible, but completely inhuman. Auch möglich, aber völlig unmenschlich. 17.Bxe7 Qxe7]

13.Nf5

[13.Nf3]

13...Bxf5 14.exf5 0-0 Right around this point I understood that any hopes for an opening advantage had disappeared, and I tried to steer the game toward a more or less equal position. I felt that if I am not careful I could end up slightly worse if Black gets in ...d7-d5 under favorable circumstances.Genau zu diesem Zeitpunkt begriff ich, dass alle Hoffnungen auf einen Eröffnungsvorteil verschwunden waren, und ich versuchte, die Partie in eine mehr oder weniger ausgeglichene Stellung zu lenken. Ich hatte das Gefühl, dass ich, wenn ich nicht aufpasse, etwas schlechter stehen könnte, wenn Schwarz unter günstigen Umständen ...d7-d5 spielt.

[14...Rc8 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 The best

attempt. The white king tries to run to f5, and form a mating net around the Black king. Black should defend extremely accurately now not to lose the game. Der beste Versuch. Der weiße König versucht, nach f5 zu laufen und ein Mattnetz um den schwarzen König zu bilden. Schwarz sollte sich jetzt extrem genau verteidigen, um die Partie nicht zu verlieren. 16.Ne4 The only move! Der einzige Zug! *(16.Nd5)* 16...0-0 *(16...Be7* This is the defensive mechanism that Stockfish tries to achieve. It looks awfully dangerous for Black, but there seems to be enough counter threats to the White king to prevent White from running the b-pawn to promotion.Dies ist der Verteidigungsmechanismus, den Stockfish zu erreichen versucht. Es sieht furchtbar gefährlich für Schwarz aus, aber es scheint genug Gegendrohungen für den weißen König zu geben, um Weiß daran zu hindern, den b-Bauern zur Umwandlung zu führen. Dabei ist *17.f6)* 17.Rxd6 Qa5 18.Nxf6+ gxf6 19.Rxf6 Rfd8]

15.g4

[15.Bxf6 Bxf6 It is by no means obvious which rook white should capture on d5, but in this case, taking with this specific rook appears to be the best try, as the other rook can defend the third rank from d3. Es ist keineswegs offensichtlich, welchen Turm Weiß auf d5 schlagen sollte, aber in diesem Fall scheint es der beste Versuch zu sein, mit diesem speziellen Turm zu schlagen, da der andere Turm die dritte Reihe von d3 aus verteidigen kann. 16.Nd5]

15...Rc8 16.Be1

[16.Rg3 Nh5 17.Bxe7 Nxg3 18.Qxe5 Imagine White's pawn being on b4, Black has the resource 34... Ra3, attacking the g3-pawn. Now that the pawn is on b3 Black has to look for different ways of creating counterplay.Stellen Sie sich vor, der weiße Bauer steht auf b4, Schwarz hat das Mittel 34...Ta3, um den g3-Bauern anzugreifen. Jetzt, da der Bauer auf b3 steht, muss Schwarz nach anderen Möglichkeiten suchen, um Gegenspiel zu erzeugen. dxe5 19.Rxd8 Nxf1 20.Rxf8+ Rxf8 21.Bxf8 Kxf8 22.h3]

[16.g5 hxg5 17.Bxg5! The only move. Der einzige Zug. Rxc3 18.bxc3 Re8 19.Qg2 *(19.Bxf6* After a series of very accurate defensive moves, Black should make the draw. Nach einer Reihe von sehr präzisen Verteidigungszügen sollte Schwarz das Remis erreichen. *Bxf6* Another serious attempt.Ein weiterer ernsthafter Versuch. *)* 19...d5]

16...Nc4 A last accurate move, after which Black has equalized.Ein letzter präziser Zug, nach dem Schwarz den Ausgleich geschafft hat. **17.Rg3**

[17.h4 Qb6]

17...d5 Strangely enough, after this logical capture the Black position starts becoming slightly unpleasant. Seltsamerweise beginnt die schwarze Stellung nach diesem logischen Schlagen etwas unangenehm zu werden. **18.g5!** In this manner, I ensure that my pawn on e5 stays alive. Auf diese Weise stelle ich sicher, dass mein Bauer auf e5 am Leben bleibt.

[18.h4 A very interesting idea, later down the lines it can be beneficial for

the pawn the block the third rank. Eine sehr interessante Idee, später in der Variante kann es für den Bauern von Vorteil sein, die dritte Reihe zu blockieren. Bd6]

18...hxg5 19.Rxg5 Although I was not very optimistic around this point, I understood that at least I have a simple idea of playing f4-f5, with an attack, and it's not altogether obvious how Black should deal with this idea.Obwohl ich an diesem Punkt nicht sehr optimistisch war, verstand ich, dass ich zumindest eine einfache Idee habe, f4-f5 zu spielen, mit einem Angriff, und es ist nicht ganz klar, wie Schwarz mit dieser Idee umgehen sollte. **19...Qb6** I was slightly surprised that Arjun captured immediately on g3, as 19...c5 seemed more logical to me. Still, after 20.Be3 I guess Black has to capture on g3 sooner or later. Ich war etwas überrascht, dass Arjun sofort auf g3 schlug, da mir 19...c5 logischer erschien. Dennoch, nach 20. Le3 muss Schwarz früher oder später auf g3 schlagen. **20.Rxg7+**

[20.Na4 Qe3+ 21.Bd2 *(21.Qxe3 Nxe3)* 21...Qxe2 22.Bxe2 Nxd2 23.Rxd2+- Ne4 Another interesting try suggests by the engines. White does not immediately try to capture one of the pawns, but instead slightly improves the king and leaves Black in the dark as to how White will proceed from this point onward.Ein weiterer interessanter Versuch wird von den Maschinen vorgeschlagen. Weiß versucht nicht sofort, einen der Bauern zu schlagen, sondern verbessert den König leicht und lässt Schwarz im Unklaren darüber, wie Weiß von nun an vorgehen wird.]

20...Kxg7 21.Qg2+ Kh8?! The first slight mistake in the game. A better approach would have been to instigate a counter-offensive on the queenside with 21...c4, leveraging the pawn majority to generate potential threats. Der erste kleine Fehler in der Partie. Ein besserer Ansatz wäre gewesen, mit 21... c4 einen Gegenangriff am Damenflügel zu starten und die Bauernmehrheit zu nutzen, um potenzielle Drohungen zu erzeugen. **22.Bxc4 Rxc4 23.Rd3 Rg4** Arjun is aiming to simplify, but White's robust pawn chain extending from g3 to e5 ensures firm control over the position. Consequently, it's clear that Black is now in a somewhat less favorable position. TArjun versucht zu vereinfachen, aber die robuste Bauernkette, die sich von g3 bis e5 erstreckt, sorgt dafür, dass Weiß die Stellung fest im Griff hat. Folglich ist es klar, dass sich Schwarz nun in einer etwas ungünstigeren Stellung befindet. T

24.Bg3

[24.Qh3+ Kg7 25.Nxd5 would be catastrophic.wäre katastrophal. Qg1 Black isn't quick enough to adopt an aggressive stance, as White's rooks on the seventh rank are stronger than Black's rooks situated on the second rank Schwarz ist nicht schnell genug, um eine aggressive Haltung einzunehmen, da die weißen Türme auf der siebten Reihe stärker sind als die schwarzen Türme auf der zweiten Reihe]

24...d4

[24...Rg7]

25.Nd5! A good move, improving the rook, which can now act along the sixth rank. Ein guter Zug, der den Turm verbessert, der nun auf der sechsten Reihe agieren kann. **25...Qd8**

[25...Nxd5 26.Qh3+ Rh4 27.Bxh4 Nf4 28.Bf6+ Kg8 29.Qh8#=]

26.Qh3+!? A cute little intermezzo. Ein nettes kleines Intermezzo.

[26.Nxf6 Bxf6□ 27.Qh3+ Rh4□ 28.Bxh4 Bxh4□=]

26...Nh7 27.Qxg4

[27.Nxe7 Rxg3□ 28.Rxg3 Qxe7□]

[27.f6 Qxd5 28.fxe7 Qg5+]

27...Qxd5! Exchanging the queens just in time. If White would be allowed to keep the queens on the board and pick up the d5-pawn, the position would already be close to winning. Der Damentausch kommt gerade noch rechtzeitig. Hätte Weiß die Möglichkeit, die Damen auf dem Brett zu behalten und den d5-Bauern zu holen, wäre die Stellung schon fast gewonnen. **28.Qxd4+ Qxd4 29.Rxd4 Rd8** Around this juncture I spent a lot of time, as the rook endgame was very interesting and there were a lot of things to consider. In the end, I could not quite figure out the best way to put pressure on Black. In dieser Phase verbrauchte ich viel Zeit, da das Turmendspiel sehr interessant war und es eine Menge Dinge zu bedenken gab. Am Ende konnte ich nicht ganz herausfinden, wie ich Schwarz am besten unter Druck setzen konnte. **30.Rxd8+** Probably both b3 or b4 would have offered the best winning chances instead.Wahrschein lich hätten b3 oder b4 stattdessen die besten Gewinnchancen geboten. **30...Bxd8 31.Kd2 Kg7 32.Ke3** Probably the worst try of all. I had hopes of creating strong pressure on f7, and finally breaking through with e6, but really I should have kept the b-pawn alive. Wahrscheinlich der schlechteste Versuch von allen. Ich hatte die Hoffnung, starken Druck auf f7 zu erzeugen und schließlich mit e6 durchzubrechen, aber eigentlich hätte ich den b-Bauern am Leben lassen sollen. **32...Bb6+**

[32...Kh6□]

33.Ke4 Nf6+ 34.Kf3 Nd7 The right square for the rook as it stops the e5-e6 advance.Das richtige Feld für den Turm, da es den Vorstoß e5-e6 verhindert.

[34...Kh6]

35.Ke4 Nf6+ 36.Kf3 Kf8 37.Be5 Generally a 4 vs 3 rook endgame is easily drawn, but here with the presence of 4 rooks it is not as easy. Both kings are constantly under danger. Normalerweise ist ein Endspiel mit 4 gegen 3 Türmen leicht remis, aber hier ist es mit 4 Türmen nicht so einfach. Beide Könige sind ständig in Gefahr.

[37.Bd6+ Ke8 38.c4]

37...Ke7?! An inaccuracy, which could have given me serious winning chances once again.Eine Ungenauigkeit, die mir wieder einmal ernsthafte Gewinnchancen beschert hätte. **38.h4** Missing a serious chance.Verpasst eine große Chance. **38...Bc5 39.c4 Bb4 40.Bf4** Not the best try, but I could not see anything better.Nicht der beste Versuch, aber ich sah nichts Besseres. **40...Kf8 41.Be5 Be7** In fact, 41...g5 would have drawn on the spot and I expected the game to end any minute. Tatsächlich hätte 41...g5 auf der Stelle remis gemacht, und ich erwartete, dass die Partie jeden Moment enden würde. **42.b3 Nd7 43.Bg3 Kg7 44.Kg4 Kf6 45.Bc7** A last attempt. Finally, I noticed a small idea of bringing the rook to f6, followed by bringing the king to g5 via h4... Ein letzter Versuch. Schließlich

bemerkte ich eine kleine Idee, den Turm nach f6 zu bringen, gefolgt von der Verlegung des Königs nach g5 über h4...
45...Bb4 46.Kf4
[46.Bd8+ Ke5 Puts Black in some sort of zugzwang, as moving the king loses on the spot. Therefore, Black has to move the rook from its deal position on e2.Das bringt Schwarz in eine Art Zugzwang, denn wenn er den König zieht, verliert er auf der Stelle. Daher muss Schwarz den Turm von seiner Geschäftsposition auf e2 bewegen. 47.h5 The best square for the rook. It turns out that keeping an eye on the f4-pawn in important. I have done some analysis here, but it seems that Black is able to hold, but only barely in all variations. Nevertheless, it would have been a good try. A sample line goes as follows: Das beste Feld für den Turm. Es stellt sich heraus, dass es wichtig ist, den f4-Bauern im Auge zu behalten. Ich habe hier einige Analysen gemacht, aber es scheint, dass Schwarz in der Lage ist, zu halten, aber nur knapp in allen Varianten. Trotzdem wäre es ein guter Versuch gewesen. Eine beispielhafte Variante sieht wie folgt aus: Bd2 48.Bg5 Nf6+]
46...Be1 47.Bd8+ Kg7??
A huge blunder, at the very very end after good defense.Ein großer Fehler, ganz zum Schluss nach guter Verteidigung. **48.Kg4** All of a sudden, White is winning.Plötzlich steht Weiß auf Gewinn. **48...Ne5+ 49.Kh5**
[49.Kf4 Nc6]
49...Nd3 50.Bg5 f6 51.Be3 Nb4 52.a3 Nc6 53.b4 Arjun saw some ghosts here, but everything is a dead draw. Arjun hat hier ein paar Geister gesehen, aber alles ist tot remis. **53...Ne5!** Being the simplest, threatening ...Rh5+ and forcing White to make a draw. ist am einfachsten, es droht Th5 und zwingt Weiß Remis zu machen. **54.c5 Bc3 55.Bh6+ Kf7 56.Bf4 Nd3 57.Bd6= Bb2!** Would still have put serious pressure on the Black position. I only noticed the idea of placing a rook on the sixth rank later. From the sixth rank, the idea of e5-e6 is created and the rook can swing to f6, creating pressure on the f7-pawn.Das hätte immer noch ernsthaften Druck auf die schwarze Stellung ausgeübt. Die Idee, einen Turm auf der sechsten Reihe zu platzieren, ist mir erst später aufgefallen. Von der sechsten Reihe aus entsteht die Idee von e5-e6, und der Turm kann nach f6 ziehen, wodurch Druck auf den f7-Bauern entsteht.
1-0

E39
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2735**
85th Tata Steel Masters (3.5) 16.01.2023
[John Emms. Kitty Kat]

E39: Nimzo-Indian: Classical: 4...c5 5 dxc5 0-0
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4
[The game could be reached via a QGD move order: 3...d5 4.Nf3 Be7 5.Bf4 0-0 6.e3 c5 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.a3 dxc4!? *(8...Nc6* is the main line) 9.Bxc4 a6 10.Qc2]
4.Qc2 c5 5.dxc5 0-0 6.a3
[6.Nf3 is the alternative, a main line more commonly reached via 4...0-0 5 Nf3 c5 6 dxc5.]

[6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Na6 8.a3 Bxc3+ 9.Qxc3 Nxc5 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Qxf6 gxf6 12.b4 Na4 13.e3 b6 14.Nf3 Ba6 15.Nd2 Bb7 16.Bd3 Rac8 17.Rc1 d5 18.Ke2 dxc4 19.Nxc4 Rfd8 20.Rhd1 Ba6 Kozul,Z (2560)-Kasparov,G (2775) 48/(751) Belgrad 1989]

6...Bxc5 7.Nf3 d5N In terms of games played, this move is only the third most popular choice, well behind 7...b6 (the Macieja Variation) and 7...Nc6. However, in recent years there's been a general trend towards ...d5 options in many lines of the Nimzo, reaching more QGD-like positions, at the expense of more traditional Nimzo development.

[7...Nc6 8.e3 d5 9.b4 Be7 10.Bb2 dxc4 11.Bxc4 a6 12.Rd1 Qc7 13.Ba2 a5 14.b5 Nb4 E 39/07 Chess Informant ECO E4 2008]

8.Bf4 This is a rare response to 7...d5, although it does invite a transposition into a huge theoretical line.

[8.Bg5 has been the most popular choice, and it certainly seems logical to pressure the d5-pawn.

A) 8...dxc4 Playing as Aronian did in the game looks more risky here, as the pin on the f6-knight causes problems. 9.e3! Nbd7 10.Bxc4 a6 11.Rd1! looks promising for White. For example,

A1) 11...b5 1.09/23 11...h7-h6 0.62 12.Ba2 Bb7? 2.39/24 *(12...Qc7!± 0.63/24)* 13.Bb1! wins;

A2) 11...Qc7 12.Ba2 Be7 13.Bb1 g6 1.60/26 *(⌓13...Re8 0.75/23)* 14.0-0 0.84/25 *(14.h4!; ⌓14.h4 1.60/26)* 14...b5 15.Rd2 0.38/25 *(15.Nd5! Nxd5 16.Qxc7 Nxc7 17.Bxe7±; 15.Nd5!± 1.13/24 Nxd5 16.Qxc7 Nxc7 17.Bxe7)* 15...Bb7? 2.90/20 *(15...Nb6!; 15...Nb6± 0.38/25)* 16.Nd5!+- Now this move is decisive. Nxd5 17.Qxc7 Nxc7 18.Bxe7 1-0 Flear,G-Henriquez Garcia,D/Mesa 1992.;

B) 8...Be7! This position has been played as Black by several grandmasters, including Caruana, Firoujza and Keymer. Although White has scored well so far, this seems to be okay for Black. 9.e3 Nc6

B1) 10.0-0-0!? -0.04/21 10.Bf1-d3 0.36 Bd7! 11.Kb1 Rc8 12.h4 is a the aggressive option, chosen unsurprising by Mamedyarov (Mamedyarov, S-Magalashvili,D/Chess.com 2020);

B2) 10.Rd1 Qa5! 11.Bd3 h6 12.Bh4

B2a) 12...Bd7 13.0-0 Rac8 0.44/24 *(13...dxc4= 0.05/26 14.Bxc4 Nb8)* 14.cxd5± Nxd5 15.Nxd5 exd5 16.Bxe7 Nxe7 17.Qd2± Shankland,S-Caruana,F/Saint Louis 2021.;

B2b) 12...Rd8 13.0-0 dxc4 14.Bxc4 Bd7 and Black equalised in Sarana,A-Keymer,V/Chess.com 2022.;

B3) 10.Be2 h6 11.Bh4 dxc4 12.Bxc4 a6 *(12...Bd7 13.Rd1 Rc8 14.Ba2 Qc7 15.Bb1 Rfd8! is solid)* 13.Rd1 Qc7 14.Ba2

B3a) 14...Bd7! 15.Bb1 Rfd8 is okay for Black, as 16.Bxf6?! -0.20/20 *(⌓16.Bg3 0.28/22 Qa5 17.Nd2)* 16...Bxf6=

17.Qh7+ Kf8 achieves nothing;
B3b) 14...Bd7= 0.17/23 is superior.;
B3c) 14...b5 0.55/22 15.Bb1 Re8? 2.01/23 (Ivanisevic,I-Bluebaum,M/ Germany 2023) and here White could have gained a winning advantage with *(15...Rd8± 0.51/22)* 16.Bxf6!+- Bxf6 17.Ne4! Be7 18.Ne5!]

8...dxc4!? Aronian chooses a QGA structure.

[After the natural 8...Nc6 0.47/20 8...d5-d4 0.03 9.e3! we've transposed to a major main line of the QGD. Re8 *(9...Qa5 10.Rd1 Re8 11.Nd2 e5 12.Bg5 Nd4 13.Qb1 Bf5 14.Bd3 Bxd3 15.Qxd3 Ne4 16.Ncxe4 dxe4 17.Qxe4 Qb6 18.Rb1 h6 19.Bh4 g5 20.b4 Bf8 21.Bg3 Rad8 22.exd4 exd4 23.Be5 Bg7 24.0-0* Chapter Fcb-Games Chapter 20 .fcb) 10.0-0-0 e5 11.Bg5 d4 12.Nd5 Be6 13.Bd3 Bxd5 14.cxd5 Qxd5 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.Bxh7+ Kf8 17.Be4 Qd6 18.Kb1 Rac8 19.Rc1 Bb6 20.Qd3 Red8 21.Rhd1 Rc7 22.Bxc6 Rxc6 23.e4 Rdc8 24.Nh4 3c. Positional − Good Knigh-Gyozo Victor Forintos vs. Ana, T]

9.e3!

[After 9.e4 -0.28/21 9.e2-e3 0.21 Black can gain typical counterplay with b5! 10.Nxb5 Qa5+ 11.Nc3 Ba6!]

9...a6 10.Bxc4 White is slightly better.

10...b5 11.Be2 0.06/23

[11.Bd3! provides more of a challenge.
A) 11...Bb7 gives White the extra option of 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bxf6 when Black must recapture with the g-pawn as Qxf6?? 2.46/22 loses to *(13...gxf6= 0.26/23 14.Be4 Qb6)* 14.Ne4!;
B) 11...Nbd7 12.0-0 *(12.Bg5 -0.35/26 12.0-0 0.53 Be7)* 12...Bb7 13.Rfd1 *(13.e4?! -0.23/23 13.Rf1-d1 0.59 Nh5! 14.Bg5 Qb8!* is fine for Black *)*
B1) 13...Qb6 14.Bxh7+!;
B2) 13...Bxf3 14.gxf3 Be7 15.a4! b4 16.Ne4 Nd5 17.Bg3± favoured White in Susla,V-Monteverde,I/LSS email 2019;
B3) 13...Qe7? 1.28/19 13...Qd8-b6 0.52 14.b4! Bb6 2.13/21 *(14...e5± 1.12/23)* 15.Bd6!;
B4) 13...Rc8 14.Ne5 h6 15.Nxd7 Nxd7 16.Bh7+ Kh8 17.Be4! Bxe4 18.Qxe4 Strongly threatening Qe4-b7. Qe7 19.Qb7 Nb8! 20.Qf3 White still has a bit of pressure, but Black should eventually equalise after b4! 21.axb4 Bxb4]

[11.Bd3± 0.42/24 was preferrable.]

11...Nbd7= 12.0-0 Bb7 Against Nc3-e4

13.Rfd1 Rc8! Aronian's opening choice has been a success. This is fine for Black, and over the next few moves Aronian begins to take control. **14.Rd2** -0.20/21

[14.Ne5=]
[⌓14.Ne5 0.17/25]

14...Qb6 15.Rad1 Rfd8

[Or 15...Nd5 16.Nxd5 Bxd5∓]

16.Qb1 h6 17.Bg3 Be7 18.Ne5 Nc5

[18...Nxe5 simplifies 19.Rxd8+ Bxd8 20.Bxe5 Bc6]

19.Bf3 Rxd2 20.Rxd2 Nce4! 21.Nxe4

[21.Nd7 Nxd7 22.Nxe4=]

21...Bxe4 22.Bxe4 Nxe4 23.Rd1

[23.Rc2! , offering an exchange of rooks, is wiser. In the game Aronian ia able to reach a favourable rook + bishop vs rook + knight endgame.]

23...Nxg3 24.hxg3 Qc7 25.Nd3 Qc2! 26.Rc1 Qxb1 27.Rxb1∓ Endgame. KRB-KRN **27...Rd8 28.Rd1 e5! 29.f3 f5 30.Kf1 e4 31.fxe4 fxe4 32.Nf2 Rxd1+ 33.Nxd1=** KB-KN **33...Kf7** Black retains some winning chances in the bishop vs knight endgame. White's knight will pick up the pawn on e4, but Black will regain the pawn due to his active king. **34.Nf2 Bf6 35.b3 Be7 36.a4 bxa4 37.bxa4 Ke6 38.Nxe4 Kd5 39.Nd2 Kc5 40.Ke2 Kb4 41.Kd3! Kxa4 42.Kc4** White has to prevent the king from reaching b4 or b5. **42...Bg5 43.Nf1 Ka5 44.e4 Kb6 45.Nh2 h5 46.Nf3 Be7 47.e5 Kc6 48.Nd4+ Kd7 49.e6+ Kc7 50.Kd5 a5 51.Nb5+?** The knight goes on the wrong circuit, and now it gets very tricky.

[51.Nc6! Bb4 52.e7! Kd7 53.g4! Giving Black doubled g-pawns. hxg4 54.Kc4! Be1 55.Kb5 stops the a-pawn and Black can make no progress. Bh4 *(55...Bd2!?)* 56.Nxa5 Kxe7 57.Kc4 Ke6 58.Kd3 Kf5 59.Ke2 with an easy draw.]

51...Kd8 White must now prevent ...a5-a4. **52.Nc3** -2.19/29

[52.Nd4!]

[52.Nd4= -0.14/38 and White is okay.]

52...Bb4!-+ 53.Na4 Ke7 54.Nb6 Kf6? -0.06/28

[54...Be1! 55.g4 hxg4 is stronger, not allowing White's resource next move.]

[54...Be1-+ -2.91/32 55.Nc8+ Kf8]

55.g4 -5.03/30 **hxg4 56.Nd7+ Ke7?** -2.74/26

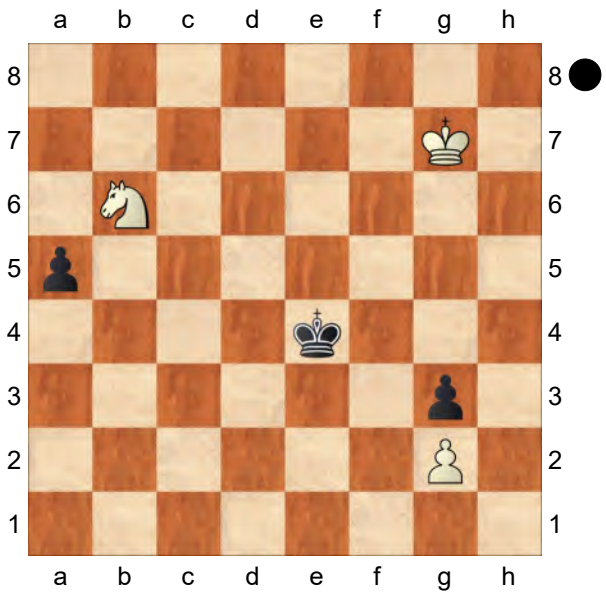
[After 56...Kg5! 57.Nb6 *(57.Nc5 Kg6!)* 57...Kf5

A) 58.Nc4 a4! 59.Nd6+? -5.12/27 *(59.Ne3+* -2.32/22 *Kf4 60.Kd4)* 59...Kf6;

B) 58.Nc8 Kf6! the king has successfully triangulated and Black is able to win. For example,. Hoping for ...a5-a4. *(58...a4?* 0.00/34 58...Kf5-f6 -4.20 *59.Kc4!)* 59.Nb6 Be7! 60.Nd7+ Kf5 61.Nb6 Bd8 aiming for ...Kf5-f4! 62.Kd6 Bh4 63.e7 Bxe7+! 64.Kxe7

B1) not 64...Kf4 Threatens to win with ...Kf4-g3. 65.Ke6 Kg3? 0.00/40 *(65...Ke4!-+* -5.65/34 And now ...g4-g3 would win. *66.Nc4 a4 67.Nd6+ Kd3)* 66.Kf5;

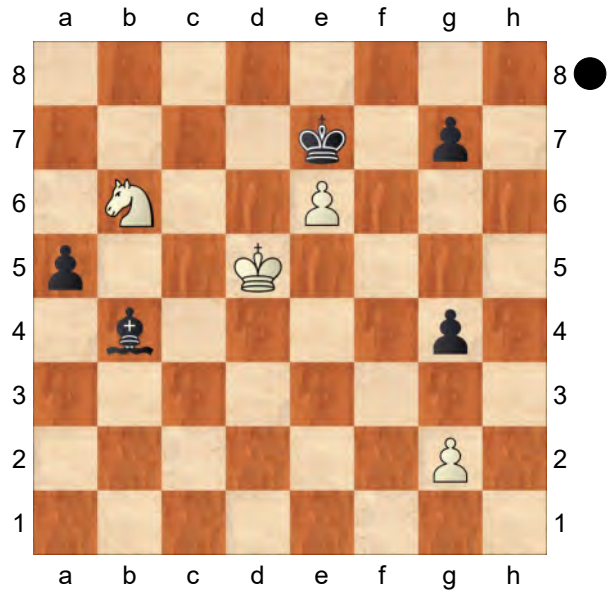
B2) 64...Ke4! 65.Kf7 *(65.Ke6 g3!)* 65...g3 66.Kxg7



Ke3! ...Ke3-f2 would now be deadly. 67.Nc4+ Kf2 68.Nxa5 Kxg2 (-> ...Kg2-f3) 69.Nc4 Kf2 and the pawn promotes.]

[⌓56...Kg5 -4.67/33 57.Nb6 Kf5]

57.Nb6



Be1
[57...Kf6!]
58.Ke5 Bg3+ -1.29/27
[58...Bc3+-+ -2.52/39 59.Kd5 Bb4 60.Nc8+ Kf6]
59.Kd5∓ Bh4 -0.66/23
[59...Bf2-+ -1.77/35 60.Na4 *(60.Nc8+? Kd8-+)* 60...g3]
60.Ke5!∓ Kd8 -0.05/30
[Black should play 60...Bg3+∓ -0.66/34 61.Kd5 Bf2]
61.Nd5!= a4 White stops the a-pawn with 62 Kd4 and Black can make no progress.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.26 (precise)
½-½

A07
□ **Ding,Liren** **2811**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
Danzhou 13th rapid (3) 13.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

A07: Réti Opening: New York and Capablanca Systems

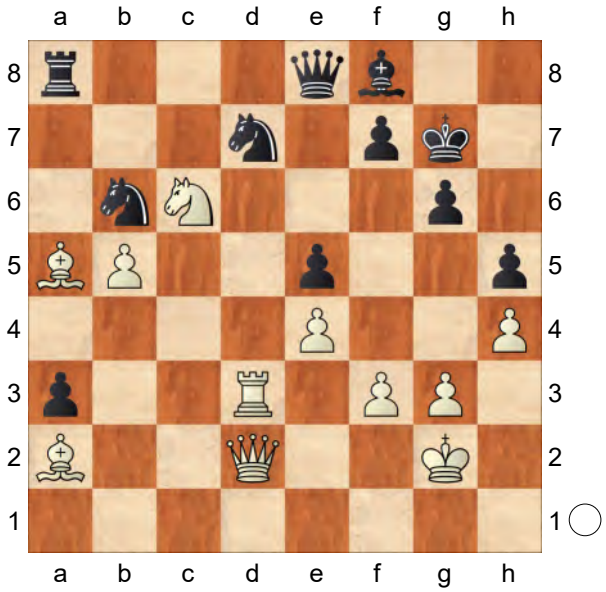
1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Bg4 3.Bg2 c6 4.0-0 Nd7 5.h3 Bxf3 6.Bxf3 Ngf6 7.d3 e5 8.e4 dxe4 9.dxe4 Bc5 10.Nd2 0-0 11.a4 a5 12.Qe2
[12.Nc4 Qe7 13.Kg2 Rfd8 14.Qe2 Nf8 15.c3 h6 16.h4 Qc7 17.Ne3 Qb6 18.Nc4 Qc7 19.Ne3 Qb6 20.Qc4 Ne6 21.Ng4 Nxg4 22.Bxg4 Rd6 23.b3 Rad8 24.f4 exf4 25.Bxf4 Nxf4+ 26.Rxf4 Rd2+ C 06/32 (2518)-6.♘c6 bc6 7.e5 ♘d5 8.♘d (2586) 49/81 Moscow 1990 (1.1) 1-0]
12...Qe7 13.Rd1N
[13.Nc4 Nb6 14.Ne3 g6 15.h4 A 07/38-N,N 2000]
13...Rfd8 14.Nc4 White is slightly better. **14...b6 15.Kg2 h6 16.Rd3** 0.50/20
[16.Be3± 0.86/19]
16...Qe6 17.b3 Bd4 18.c3 Bc5 19.Qd1 Be7 20.Be3 Nc5 21.Rxd8+ Rxd8 22.Qc2 Bf8 23.Rb1
[23.Nxb6 Nxb3 24.Rd1 Rxd1 25.Bxd1 *(25.Qxd1 Bc5=)* 25...Nc5=]
23...Rb8 24.Rd1 Ncd7 0.93/21
White stays focused until the end.
[24...Re8± 0.54/21 is superior.]
25.Be2± White is more active. **25...Nc5** 1.34/21
[⌓25...Bc5 0.90/21]
26.f3 Ncd7 27.Bf2 g6 1.60/20
[⌓27...Qe8 1.19/20 28.Qd2 Qe6]
28.Be1 1.17/20
[White should try 28.Be3 1.60/20]
28...h5 29.h4 1.07/21
[⌓29.Bf2 1.45/22]
29...Ra8 30.b4 axb4 1.82/22
[30...Kg7± 1.14/20 31.Rb1 Qe8]
31.cxb4+- b5 2.22/23
[⌓31...Rb8 1.78/21 32.a5 b5]
32.Na5 bxa4 33.Bc4
[33.Qxc6?! Qxc6 34.Nxc6 Nb6±]
[33.Qxa4 c5]

[33.Nxc6?! Nb6±]

33...Qe8 34.Nxc6 a3 35.b5 Nb6 36.Ba2 Nfd7 37.Ba5 Bc5 38.Rd3 Kg7 39.Bc3 Threatens to win with f3-f4.

39...Kh7 40.Qd2 Bf8 41.Ba5 Kg7 2.78/22

[41...Bc5± 1.48/20 is a better defense. 42.Bb4 Bxb4 43.Qxb4 Ra4]



42.g4! Be7? 4.00/22

[42...Kh7 2.49/20 keeps fighting. 43.gxh5 f6 44.hxg6+ Qxg6+ 45.Kh3 Qg7]

43.gxh5 Bxh4 44.hxg6

[44.Rxa3 f5 45.Qd6 fxe4 46.fxe4 gxh5+-]

44...fxg6 45.Rd6

[45.Rxa3 Nf6 46.Qd6 Nfd7+-]

45...Bf6 46.Re6 Qf8 6.20/23

[46...Qf7 3.78/22 47.Bb4 Nf8]

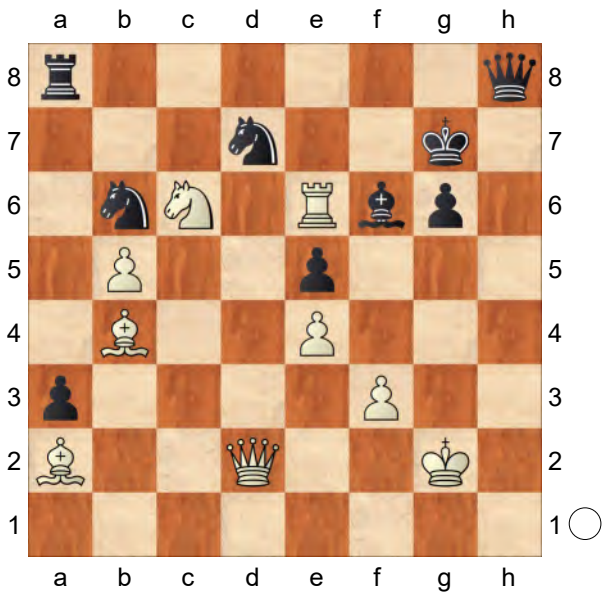
47.Bb4 White is clearly winning.

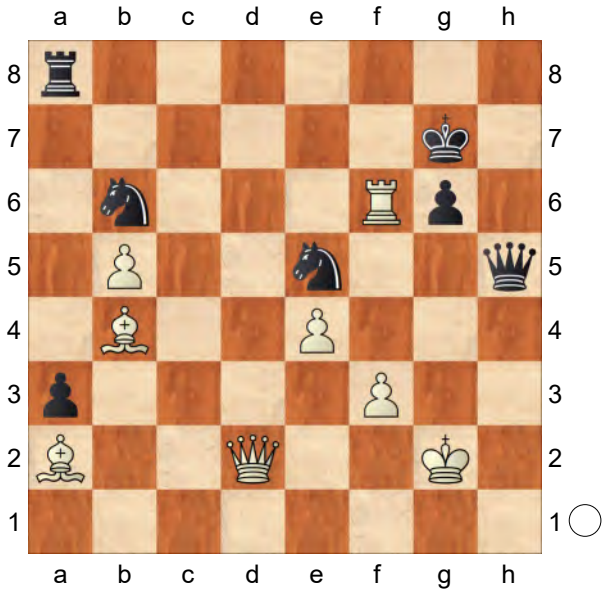
47...Qh8

(Diagram)

48.Nxe5! Nxe5 49.Rxf6 Qh5

(Diagram)





50.Bc3! A strong pair of Bishops.

50...Ra7 Repels Rf6-f7+ **51.Qf4**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.42. An unexpected result.

½-½

		C81
□	**Erigaisi,Arjun**	**2722**
■	**Carlsen,Magnus**	**2859**
Wijk aan Zee		2023

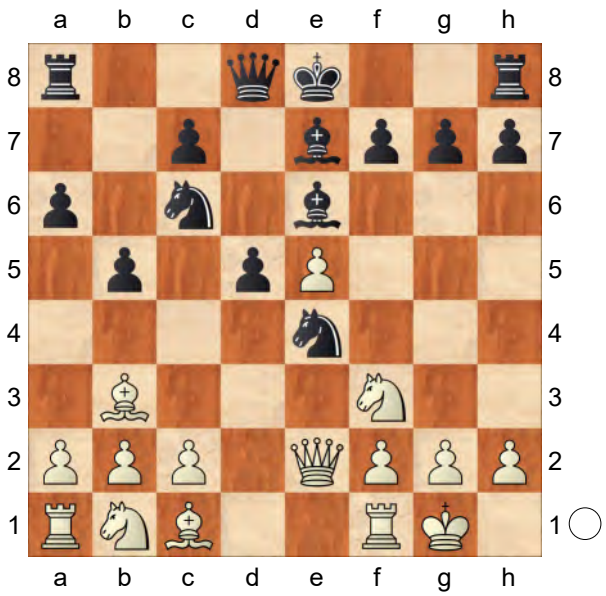
[Moradiabadi,E, Kitty Kat]

C81: Open Ruy Lopez: Keres Variation (9 Qe2)
Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'The situation before the last round was clear, Magnus needed to win in order to have any chance of winning the tournament, as he was trailing Abdusattorov by a full point. Having the black pieces in general is not seem as ideal in such a scenario, but it is notheworthy that Magnus managed to in as many as 4 games with black in Wijk!' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Die Situation vor der letzten Runde war klar: Magnus musste gewinnen, um überhaupt noch eine Chance auf den Turniersieg zu haben, da er mit einem ganzen Punkt Rückstand auf Abdusattorov lag. Die schwarzen Figuren zu haben, scheint in einem solchen Szenario nicht ideal zu sein, aber es ist erwähnenswert, dass Magnus in Wijk nicht weniger als 4 Partien mit Schwarz gewinnen konnte!' **1.e4** After two losses, the World Champion came back with strong play and finished on a notable +3 score! This final round victory against Erigaisi Arjun, for some reasons, reminds me of Spassky's win over Korchnoi in 1968 candidates match. One reason I can think of is how Black swings with his queen from one side of the board to the other in a relatively closed structure. **1...e5 2.Nf3** Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'In a way a brave choice by Erigaisi, just aiming to play chess, rather than trying to force events by following long theorethical lines. But while the young indians tournament took a turn for the worse in the latter half, his spirit for figthing chess always seemed to be there.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'In gewisser Weise war es eine mutige Entscheidung von Erigaisi, einfach nur Schach zu spielen, anstatt zu versuchen, die Ereignisse durch das Verfolgen langer theorethischer Varianten zu erzwingen. Aber während das Turnier des jungen Inders in der zweiten Hälfte eine Wendung zum Schlechteren nahm, schien sein Wille, Schach zu spielen, immer vorhanden zu sein.' **2...Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6** Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!? 'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'The double-financhietto like this is a somewhat rare guest at top-level. The reason mainly is that it does only arise logically via the 1 Nf3 move-order as after 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 black sort of have to play 2...e6 before going 3...b6 next ,for a regulat Queens Indian. Thus perhaps the double fianchetto has not gained a lot of attention, but in Tiviakovs recent " Rock Solid Chess", the now Dutch Grandmaster gives an excellent overview of the strategical concept of the opening, by showing a number of his own games in the line. Apparantly in such an inspiring way, that even the World Champion decided to give it a try!' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Das Doppel-Financhietto wie dieses ist ein eher seltener Gast auf hohem Niveau. Das liegt vor allem daran, dass es sich nur logisch über die Zugfolge 1.Sf3 ergibt, da Schwarz nach 1 d4 Sf6 2 c4 gewissermaßen 2...e6 spielen muss, bevor er 3...b6 spielt, für ein reguläres Damenindisch. Deshalb hat das Doppelfianchetto vielleicht nicht viel Aufmerksamkeit erregt, aber in

Tiviakovs kürzlich erschienenem 'Rock Solid Chess' gibt der jetzt niederländische Großmeister einen ausgezeichneten Überblick über das strategische Konzept der Eröffnung, indem er eine Reihe seiner eigenen Partien in dieser Linie zeigt. Offenbar auf eine so inspirierende Weise, dass sogar der Weltmeister beschloss, es zu versuchen!' **5.0-0 Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3** Best move according to the engine. I personally trusts that Erigaisi follows engines best lines! Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!?' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'One of the charming things with the system is that already here it is not obvious how white should react.

7 Nc3 perhaps looks like the logical move, but 7...Ne4 just leads to favaourable exchanges for black, and unlike the regular Queens-Indian black even as a bonus, opens the long diagonal with easy equality. Apart from the game-move, 7 Re1 is another critical move, played by Nakamura against Magnus in a later online game. Then it becomes a typical "waiting game, as after 7...e6 8 Bf4 d6 white avoids playing Nc3 not allowing ...Ne4, but here somehow it is white who runs out of useful moves first. 9 Qc2 perhaps being critical, but then black has 9...c5, made Nakamura play 9 Nbd2 but soon to be strategically worse.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Eines der reizvollen Dinge an diesem System ist, dass schon hier nicht klar ist, wie Weiß reagieren soll.

7 Sc3 sieht vielleicht wie der logische Zug aus, aber 7...Se4 führt nur zu günstigem Abtausch für Schwarz, und im Gegensatz zum regulären Damenindisch öffnet Schwarz sogar als Bonus die lange Diagonale mit leichtem Ausgleicht. Abgesehen vom Partiezug ist 7 Te1 ein weiterer kritischer Zug, den Nakamura in einer späteren Online-Partie gegen Magnus spielte. Dann wird es ein typisches 'Wartespiel', denn nach 7...e6 8 Lf4 d6 vermeidet Weiß, Sc3 zu spielen, was ...Se4 nicht zulässt, aber hier ist es irgendwie Weiß, dem zuerst die nützlichen Züge ausgehen. 9.Dc2 ist vielleicht kritisch, aber dann hat Schwarz 9...c5, was Nakamura dazu brachte, 9.Sbd2 zu spielen, wonach er aber bald strategisch schlechter stand.' **7...d5** Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'The logical move, and what Tiviakov recommends, even if the computers insists that after 7...b5 8 Qb3 Qc8 9 Qxb5 c6 black has very decent compensation for the sacrificed pawn.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Der logische Zug, den Tiviakov empfiehlt, auch wenn der Computer darauf besteht, dass Schwarz nach 7... b5 8 Db3 Dc8 9 Dxb5 c6 eine sehr gute Kompensation für den geopferten Bauern hat.' **8.dxe5 Be6** Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'White logically managed to block the b7-bishop, but like this black again gets ready for ...Nfe4.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Weiß hat es logischerweise geschafft, den b7-Läufer zu blockieren, aber so macht sich Schwarz wieder bereit für ...Sfe4.' **9.Qe2** Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'The straightforward move, and while it to some extend plays into black's hand, it is no way bad. More solid moves, like 9 Qc2. exist, but once again, Erigaisi is afraid of nobody.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Der geradlinige Zug, und obwohl er Schwarz in gewissem Maße in die Hände spielt, ist er keineswegs schlecht. Es gibt solidere Züge wie 9.Dc2, aber wieder einmal hat Erigaisi vor niemandem Angst.' **9...Be7**



Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'An integral party of Tiviakov's concept. It might look like first black aims for a Queen's-Indian but then changes his mind and goes for a King's Indian in the end while in the mean time white has just been making useful and logical moves. But the small details are somewhaht in blacks favor. For a start, white is losing some time moving his knight around the board, and secondly while grabbing space in the centre with d5 is very typical in the Kingsindian, one can argus that while it indeed here blocks the black bishop on b7, the same can be said of whites biishop at g2. Again, we are not at all talking of black being better, but an unusual structure with black not being particulary worse has arisen.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Ein wesentlicher Bestandteil von Tiviakovs Konzept. Es könnte so aussehen, als ob Schwarz zunächst auf ein Damenindisch abzielt, dann aber seine Meinung ändert und am Ende auf ein Königsindisch setzt, während Weiß in der Zwischenzeit nur nützliche und logische Züge macht. Aber die kleinen Details sind etwas zu Gunsten von Schwarz. Erstens verliert Weiß etwas Zeit, wenn er seinen Springer auf dem Brett bewegt, und zweitens ist es zwar sehr typisch für Königsindisch, mit d5 Raum im Zentrum zu gewinnen, aber man kann argumentieren, dass er hier zwar den schwarzen Läufer auf b7 blockiert, aber dasselbe kann man auch über den weißen Läufer auf g2 sagen. Auch hier geht es keineswegs darum, dass Schwarz besser steht, sondern es ist eine ungewöhnliche Struktur entstanden, bei der Schwarz nicht besonders schlecht steht.' **10.c4** -0.70/25 Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'After 10 Nb3 d6 11 Nxc5 Tiviakov played the interesting 11...dxc5!? rerouting the knight to d6. Erigaisis choice is logical, having more space, he avoids exchanges.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Nach 10 Sb3 d6 11.Sxc5 spielte Tiviakov das interessante 11...dxc5!? und leitete den Springer nach d6 um. Erigaisis Wahl ist logisch, er hat mehr Raum und vermeidet Abtausch.' **10...Nc5N** 0.12/27 Black is more active.

[10...bxc4 11.Ba4 Bd7 12.Nc3 Nc5 13.e6 fxe6 14.Bxc6 Bxc6 15.Ne5 Bb7 16.Qh5+ g6 17.Nxg6 hxg6 18.Qxh8+ Kd7 Chapter14-A 10 c4?!]

[10...bxc4⩲ -0.70/25 11.Bxc4 Qd7]

11.cxd5=

[11.cxb5 -1.08/26 11.c4xd5 0.19 Nxb3 -0.08/19 A worthy last round win for the World Champion. Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'And as 57 Qc2 Qa3 and 57 Ka2 Bd1 leads to immediate mates, Erigaisi resigned.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Und da 57.Dc2 Da3 und 57.Ka2 Ld1 zu sofortigem Matt führen, gab Erigaisi auf.'

(11...axb5⩱ -1.08/26 ...Nc5xb3 is the

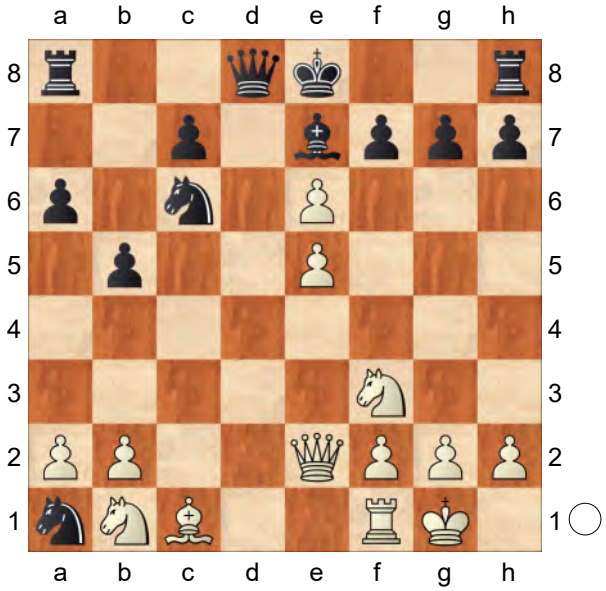
strong threat. *12.Bc2 b4)* 12.axb3= axb5-+ 13.Rxa8 Qxa8 14.Qxb5 -0.52/21 *(14.Bg5=* 0.00/20) 14...0-0]

11...Nxb3? 1.89/22

[11...Bxd5= 0.15/22 12.Bxd5 Qxd5]

12.dxe6+- White is clearly better.

12...Nxa1 Diagram



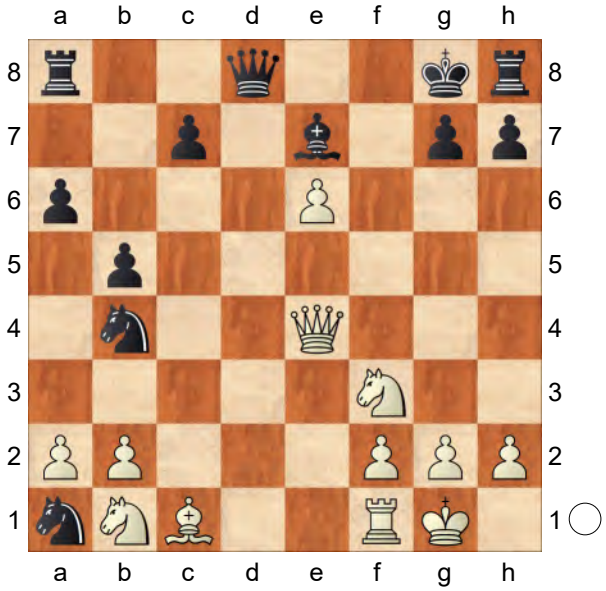
Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'As the structure has changed dramatically this back and forth, is fully justified. The bishop now supports ...f5 and the b7-square perhaps surpringly is very useful for the black knight, in terms of blockading the queenside structure as we will later see.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Da sich die Struktur dramatisch verändert hat, ist dieses Hin und Her völlig gerechtfertigt. Der Läufer unterstützt nun ...f5 und das Feld b7 ist vielleicht überraschend nützlich für den schwarzen Springer, um die Struktur am Damenflügel zu blockieren, wie wir später sehen werden.' **13.exf7+N** 0.15/22

[13.Qe4!+- 1.70/23 Na5 14.exf7+ Kxf7 15.Nc3]

13...Kxf7= And now ...Qd8-d5 would win. **14.e6+! Kg8! 15.Qe4** Nielsen,Peter Heine: '?!'. Prevents Qd8-d5. White has compensation. Nielsen,Peter Heine: '15 a3 was the better move-order as the computers then want to meet 15...f5 with 16 exf5 and then having the rook on b1 allows ... Bxf5!? The concept is that after 16... gxf5 17 Rb1 black's attack on the kingside is less easy to progress than in the game.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: '15 a3 war die bessere Zugfolge, da die Computer dann 15...f5 mit 16 exf5 begegnen wollen und der Turm auf b1 dann ...Lxf5! ermöglicht? Das Konzept besteht darin, dass nach 16...gxf5 17. Tb1 der schwarze Angriff am Königsflügel weniger leicht voranzutreiben ist als in der Partie.'

15...Nb4 0.88/19 Diagram

[15...Qe8= 0.11/21 remains equal.]



16.Nc3?!± Erigaisi was surely forgetting this event already. This move is too passive. **16...c6** 1.79/21

[16...Qe8± 1.38/21]

17.Ne5? -0.01/21

[17.Nd4+- 1.79/21]

17...Qe8?! 0.80/21 Nielsen,Peter Heine:

'A noteworthy choice. As some stage in the evolution of Kings Indian understanding, black was avoiding playing like this as it blocks his black squared bishop out of the game like in the game. 17...h5!? was a way to progress withut allowing the immediate white g4, but computers are not especially impressed. However they point to 17...a4! The idea is that 18 b4 Nb3 allows black taking the bishop on c1 next followed by ...Bh6, and if 18 Nxa4 Nxa4 19 bxa4 Bh6!? 20 g4 Bg5! one sees the mentioned black concept in action, with the black squared bishop being active on h4,even though the computers says 21 Kf2!? Bh4+ 22 Ke2 is a decent counter, evacuating the white king towards the center!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Eine bemerkenswerte Wahl. Irgendwann in der Entwicklung des Königsindisch- Verständnisses vermied Schwarz, so zu spielen, da es seinen schwarzfeldrigen Läufer aus dem Spiel heraus blockiert, wie in der Partie. 17... h5!? war eine Möglichkeit, voranzukommen, ohne das sofortige weiße g4 zuzulassen, aber die Computer sind nicht besonders beeindruckt. Sie weisen jedoch auf 17...a4! hin. Die Idee ist, dass 18 b4 Sb3 Schwarz erlaubt, den Läufer auf c1 zu nehmen, gefolgt von ...Lh6, und nach 18.Sxa4 Sxa4 19 bxa4 Lh6!? 20 g4 Lg5! sieht man das erwähnte schwarze Konzept in Aktion, wobei der schwarzfeldrige Läufer auf h4 aktiv ist, obwohl der Computer sagt, dass 21 Kf2!? Lh4+ 22 Ke2 ein anständiger Konter ist, der den weißen König ins Zentrum evakuiert!'

[17...Qd6= -0.01/21 18.Qf5 Rf8]

18.Nf7 Strongly threatening Bc1-f4!

18...h5? 2.69/21 Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'As mentioned this is a clever square for the knight, controlling whites potential c5-break as well as keeping an eye on a5.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Wie bereits erwähnt, ist dies ein kluges Feld für den Springer, der den möglichen c5-Durchbruch des Weißen kontrolliert und gleichzeitig ein Auge auf a5 wirft.'

19.Qg6 1.29/21 Practically unnecessary but this move is alright.

[19.a3 Nd5=]

[19.Bg5+- 2.69/21]

19...Nd5 **20.Ne4** 0.22/26 Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'It is fair to say that the position is closed, but not yet fully blocked. At sight it seems like only black has a pawn-break with potentially ...c6, but Kings Indian knowledge tells us that black aims at sacrificing on g4, while white will push c5, even as a pawn sacrifice. Obviously meaning that while players try to carry out their own plan, then simultaneously try and prevent the opponents from happening too.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Man kann sagen, dass die Stellung zwar geschlossen, aber noch nicht vollständig blockiert ist. Auf den ersten Blick sieht es so aus, als ob nur Schwarz einen Bauerndurchbruch mit möglicherweise ...c6 hat, aber das Königsindisch-Wissen sagt uns, dass Schwarz ein Opfer auf g4 anstrebt, während Weiß auf c5 drängen wird, sogar als Bauernopfer. Das bedeutet natürlich, dass die Spieler versuchen, ihren eigenen Plan auszuführen und gleichzeitig versuchen, den gegnerischen Plan zu verhindern.'

[Better is 20.Qf5!± 1.23/22]

20...Nc7= Threatens to win with ... Na1-c2. **21.Bg5!→** Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!'. Black needs to defend precisely.

[21.Bh6 Rh7 22.Bg5 *(22.Rxa1*

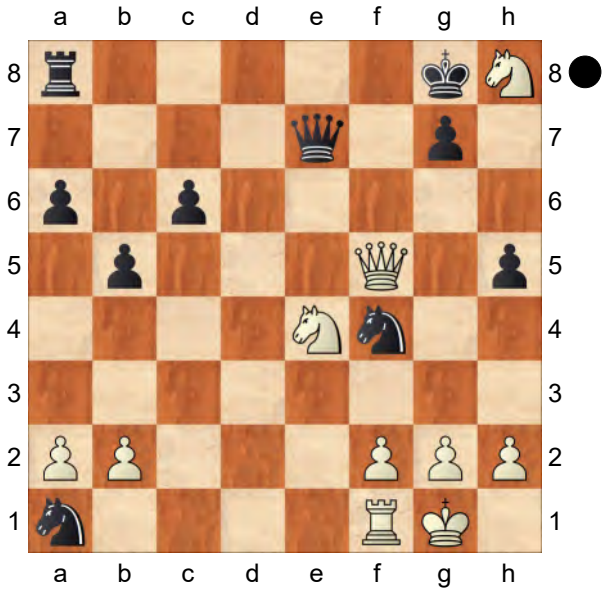
Nxe6 Remove Defender *23.Qxe6 Qxf7∓)* 22...Nxe6 23.Qxe6 Qxf7∓]

21...Nxe6 22.Bxe7

[22.Qxe6? Qxf7 23.Qxe7 Qxe7 24.Bxe7 Re8-+]

[22.Nxh8 Nxg5 23.Nxg5 Qxg6 *(23...Kxh8 24.Qh7#)* 24.Nxg6 Bxg5∓]

22...Qxe7 23.Nxh8 Nf4 24.Qf5 Diagram



24...Kxh8! 3.55/30 Carlsen plans to improve his worst piece, the b7-knight.

[24...Qf8!± 0.42/26 25.Ng6 Ne2+ 26.Kh1 Qxf5 27.Ne7+ Kh7 28.Nxf5 Nc2]

25.Qxf4 1.72/24

[25.Rxa1 Rf8 26.Qc5 Qe8=]

[⌓25.Ng5! 3.55/30 g6 26.Qxf4]

25...Rf8+- 26.Qe3 A tactical oversight... Nielsen,Peter Heine: '?!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Magnus has managed a "change of guards" toward the c5-break, and now starts transfering his knight towards being able to join the fight to break through on the kingside. However, while generally the price of being precise has not been high the last moves, here is the exception. Now the computer says 26...axb4! is strong, as if 27 axb4 hxg4 28 hxg4 c6! black has been given a very fortunate moment to catch his opponent of guards. The main point being that after 29 dxc6 Nxc6 black threates 30... d5 attacking b4, and if 30 Nxd6 then 30...Nxb4 31 Rxb5 Qc5! wins.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Magnus hat eine 'Wachablösung' in Richtung des c5-Durchbruchs geschafft und beginnt nun, seinen Springer zu verlagern, damit er in den Kampf um den Durchbruch auf der Königsseite eingreifen kann. Während jedoch in den letzten Zügen der Preis für die Genauigkeit nicht hoch war, gibt es hier eine Ausnahme. Jetzt sagt der Computer, dass 26...axb4! stark ist, weil nach 27 axb4 hxg4 28 hxg4 c6! Schwarz einen sehr glücklichen Moment bekommen hat, um seinen Gegner in die Schranken zu weisen. Der Hauptpunkt ist, dass Schwarz nach 29 dxc6 Sxc6 mit 30...d5 droht und b4 angreift, und wenn 30 Sxd6, dann 30... Sxb4 31.Txb5 Dc5! und gewinnt.'

26...Re8? ... which World #1 does not catch. Nielsen,Peter Heine: '?!'

[26...Nc2? 27.Qe2 Re8 28.Qxh5+ Kg8 29.Ng5+-]

27.f3!

[27.Rxa1 0.00/34 27.f2-f3 1.50 Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!']

27...Nc2 28.Qc3 Qa7+ Nielsen,Peter Heine: '?!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'A winning inaccuracy? Way too string a statement, but while the computer is not impressed, from a practical perspective, as staying put made it difficult to progress, and as Wijk is one of the few tournaments to give white an extra hour after move 40, it actually made sense to intensify the struggle, while players were relatively shorter on time.'Nielsen,Peter

Heine: 'Eine gewinnbringende Ungenauigkeit? Eine viel zu strenge Aussage, aber während der Computer nicht beeindruckt ist, machte es aus praktischer Sicht, da es bei Verharren schwierig ist voranzukommen und da Wijk eines der wenigen Turniere ist, das Weiß eine zusätzliche Stunde nach Zug 40 gibt, tatsächlich Sinn, den Kampf zu intensivieren, während die Spieler relativ wenig Zeit hatten.' **29.Nc5?** 0.00/32

[Only move: 29.Kh1+- 1.88/27 Nd4 30.Rd1]

29...Re2!= aiming for ...b5-b4. **30.Kh1 Ne3 31.Rc1** Black must now prevent Qc3-e5. **31...Nd5 32.Qa5** -0.76/24 Erigaisi is not confident.Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'A tempting move, why not seek exchanges? But exactly helps black. Better was 32 Be2. It is understandable that Erigaisi wanted to exchange rooks, as blacks on h2 is the more active, but keeping g4 firmly protected was a bigger priority. And with the a-line opened, black also starts running risk, as the white rook could suddenly start being active there!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Ein verlockender Zug, warum nicht Tausch anstreben? Aber genau das hilft Schwarz. Besser war 32.Le2. Es ist verständlich, dass Erigaisi die Türme tauschen wollte, da der schwarze Turm auf h2 der aktivere ist, aber g4 fest zu schützen war eine größere Priorität.
Und wenn die a-Linie geöffnet ist, geht Schwarz auch ein Risiko ein, da der weiße Turm dort plötzlich aktiv werden könnte!'

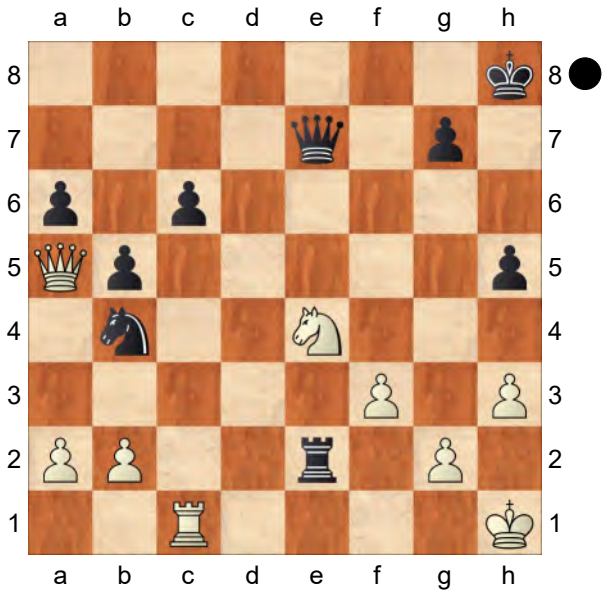
[32.Qd4= -0.22/23]

32...Qe7 -0.13/22

[32...Rxb2 33.Qd8+ Kh7 34.Nd7=]

[Black should play 32...Kh7!∓ -0.76/24]

33.Ne4 Nb4 34.h3 Diagram



34...Nd3! Deep understanding of the position. This move does not win but poses a lot of practical problems. Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'A good move, the logical move for the flow of the game, but still the computer says its usual 0.00. But the practical chances are with black.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Ein guter Zug, der logische Zug für den Spielfluss, aber trotzdem sagt der Computer sein übliches 0,00. Aber die praktischen Chancen liegen bei Schwarz.' **35.Rf1 Nf4**

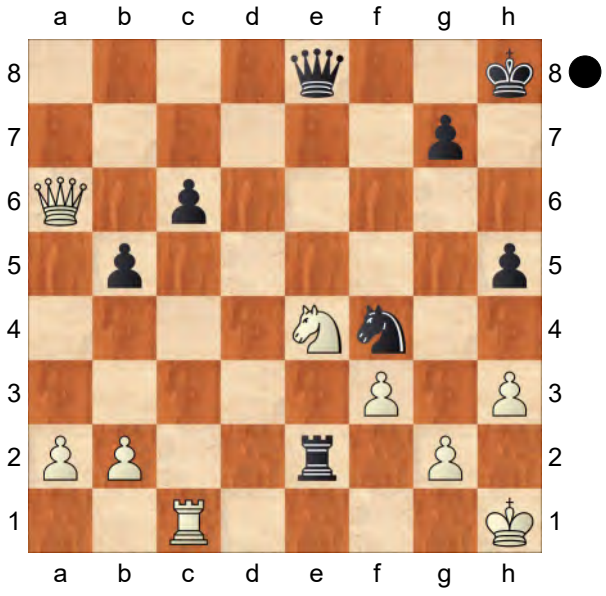
[35...Nxb2 36.Qxa6 Qd7 37.Rc1 *(37.Qa8+ Kh7±)*]

[35...Rxb2? 36.Qc3 Qd7 37.Nc5 *(37.Rd1 Rxg2* Decoy *38.Kxg2 Nf4+ 39.Kg3 Ne2+ 40.Kf2 Qxd1=)* 37...Nxc5 *(37...Nf2+? 38.Kg1+-)* 38.Qxb2+-]

36.Qxa6 Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!?' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'There was no immediate hurry, in the sense that black's threat is to prepare pushing his pawns on the kingside forward, and for that he anyway had to retreat his bishop from g4. However Erigaisi sees this as an oppotunity, transfering his bishop to

h5, where it both attacks towards the black king and knight, but also keeps an eye on the black pawns when they start marching forward, but from a more forward outpost.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Es bestand keine unmittelbare Eile in dem Sinne, dass die schwarze Drohung darin besteht, das Vorrücken seiner Bauern am Königsflügel vorzubereiten, und dafür musste er ohnehin seinen Läufer von g4 zurückziehen. Erigaisi sieht dies jedoch als Chance und verlagert seinen Läufer nach h5, wo er zum einen den schwarzen König und Springer angreift, zum anderen aber auch die schwarzen Bauern im Auge behält, wenn sie nach vorne marschieren, allerdings von einem weiter vorne gelegenen Vorposten aus.' **36...Qe8** Prevents Qa6-c8. ...Qe8-g6! would now be deadly. **37.Rc1?** -2.65/26

[37.Rg1= 0.00/23 and White stays safe.]

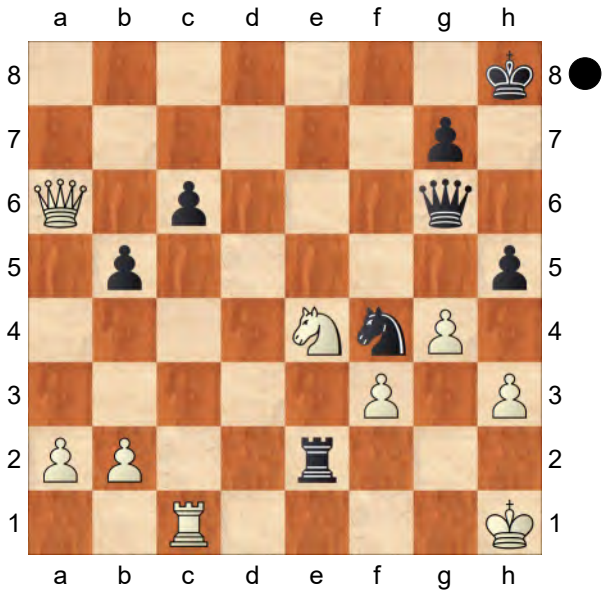


37...Qg6!-+

[37...Nxg2? 38.Rxc6+-]

38.g4 -5.75/30

[38.Qa8+ -3.43/27 Kh7 39.Rg1]



38...Rxe4! Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!?' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Also Magnus uses the whole board, and the and forces the white queen to retreat.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Auch Magnus nutzt das ganze Brett und zwingt die weiße Dame zum Rückzug.'

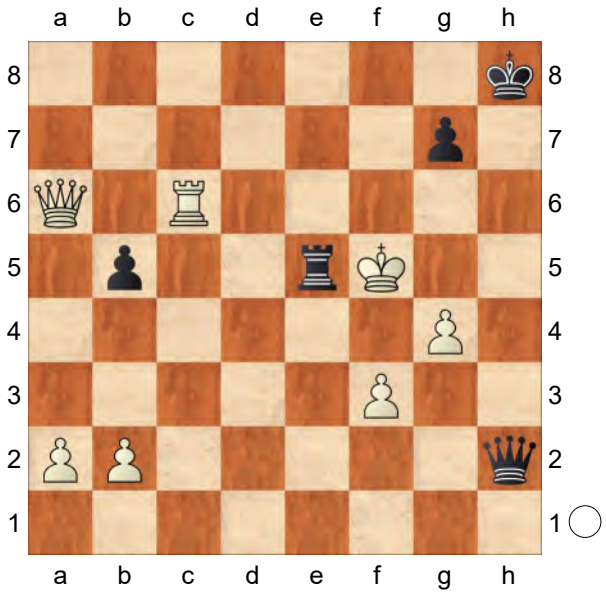
[38...Rxb2? too greedy. 39.Rxc6 Rb1+ 40.Kh2 Rb2+ 41.Kg3+-]

39.Rxc6 Re1+ A wild game.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.76/ Black=0.36

[39...Re1+ 40.Kh2 Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'A fascinating position, unless you are a computer, which just keeps repeating 0.00. Magnus tries winning time by attacking e4, and while Erigaisi till now has played the game with optimism, now he falters into passivity. 41 Nxf4!? was possible, as after 41...exf4 42 Bb2 suddenly it is white who starts attacking, with the long diagonal being vulnerable. Still 0. 00 though!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Eine faszinierende Stellung, es sei denn, man ist ein Computer, der einfach 0, 00 wiederholt. Magnus versucht Zeit

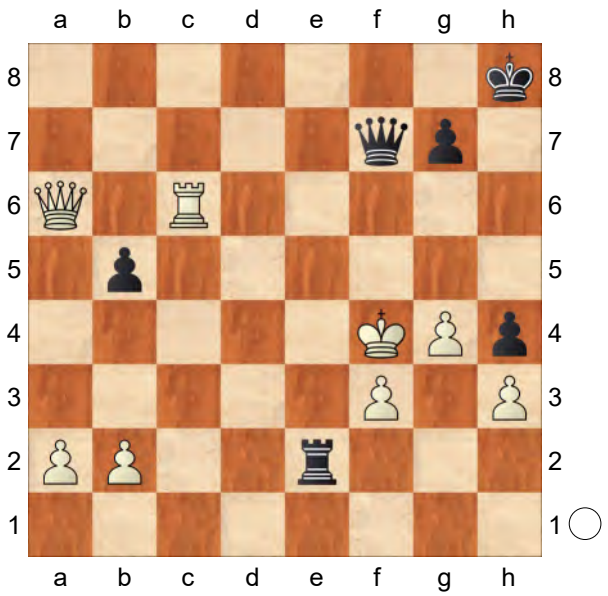
zu gewinnen, indem er e4 angreift, und während Erigaisi die Partie bis jetzt mit Optimismus gespielt hat, verfällt er jetzt in Passivität. 41 Sxf4!? war möglich, denn nach 41...exf4 42 Lb2 ist es plötzlich Weiß, der angreift, wobei die lange Diagonale verwundbar ist. Trotzdem 0,00!' Re2+ Nielsen,Peter Heine: '?!' 41.Kg3 h4+? A loss of tempo. 42.Kxf4 Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'While black's plan at first sight perhaps looks like ...g3, Magnus had a much stronger concept in mind. He cleared the 8th rank for his queen, to access the h3 square via h8. As white can't exchange on that square, as the black pawn then queens, it means that black now just penetrates on the kingside, the computers already giving the verdict: Black is winning.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Während der schwarze Plan auf den ersten Blick vielleicht nach ...g3 aussieht, hatte Magnus ein viel stärkeres Konzept in petto. Er machte die achte Reihe für seine Dame frei, um über h8 auf das Feld h3 zu gelangen. Da Weiß auf diesem Feld nicht abtauschen kann, da dann der schwarze Bauer umwandelt, bedeutet dies, dass Schwarz nun einfach am Königsflügel eindringt, wobei die Computer bereits das Urteil verkünden: Schwarz gewinnt.' *(42.Kxh4 Qh7+ 43.Kg3* Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Allowing some checks, but they only add to blacks position and in no way harms black.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Erlaubt einige Schachs, aber sie verbessern nur die schwarze Stellung und schaden Schwarz in keiner Weise.' *Qxh3+ 44.Kxf4 Qh2+ 45.Kf5 Re5+* Diagram



46.Kg6!-+ And back! Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'The last key move, controlling the h6-square stops the white queen from entering, and with no counterplay left, whites position is hopeless.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Der letzte Schlüsselzug, die Kontrolle des h6-Feldes hindert die weiße Dame am Eindringen, und da kein Gegenspiel mehr möglich ist, ist die weiße Stellung hoffnungslos.' *Qh7+ 47.Kf7 Qg8+ 48.Kg6 Qe8#)* 42...Qf7+ Diagram

(Diagram)

43.Kg5! Re5+ Erigaisi finally bails out. Nevertheless, it is too late! Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Desperation, but inderstandable. Just sitting passively left zero chances.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Verzweiflung, aber unverständlich. Einfach passiv dasitzen ließ null Chancen.' 44.Kxh4 g5+ 45.Kg3 Qf4+ 46.Kg2 Nielsen,Peter Heine: '!'Nielsen,Peter

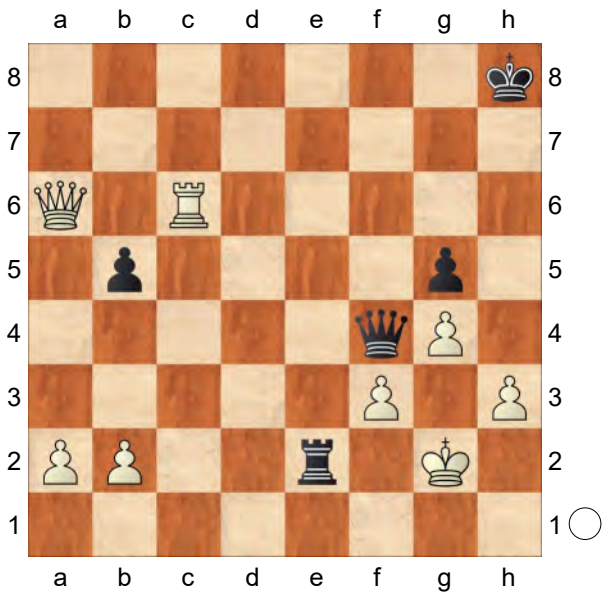


Heine: 'The piece has been won back, and black switches to solidity again, removing the knight from threat and aiming for the e5 square.' Nielsen,Peter Heine: 'Die Figur wurden zurückgewonnen, und Schwarz stellt wieder auf Solidität um, entfernt den Springer aus der Bedrohung und zielt auf das Feld e5.' *(46.Kf2!* It is an obivous move but one cannot disregard the aesthetic aspect of it. *Qh2+* Nielsen,Peter Heine: '?!'Nielsen,Peter Heine: '48 Qa3 was the aboslute last chance, even if the endgame is obviously much better for black.'Nielsen,Peter Heine: '48 Qa3 war die absolut letzte Chance, auch wenn das Endspiel offensichtlich viel besser für Schwarz ist.' *)* 46...Re2+ Diagram

(Diagram)

]

0-1



A50

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**

■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**

Wijk aan Zee 2023

[Kitty Kat]

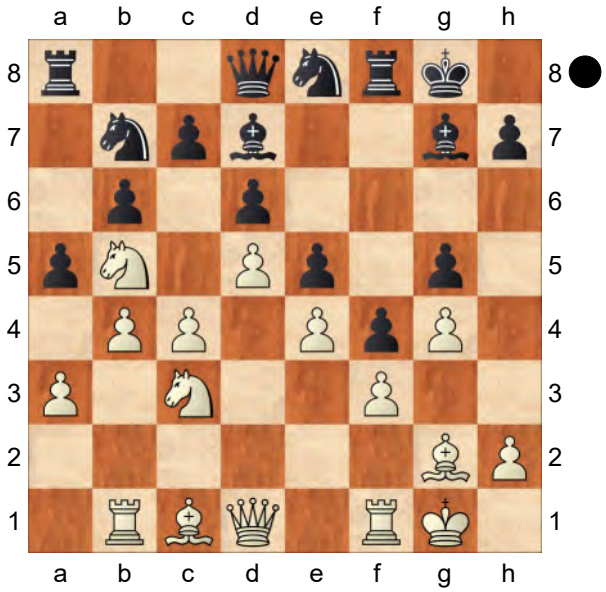
A50: Queen's Fianchetto Defence (1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 b6)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 b6 3.Bg2 Bb7 4.0-0 g6 5.c4N

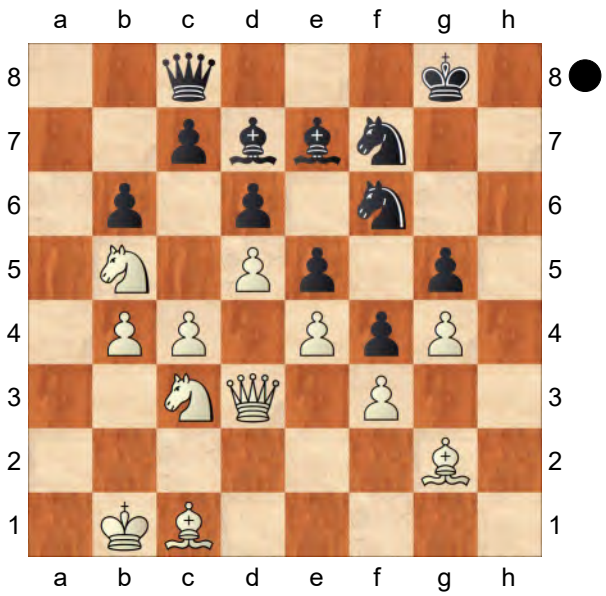
[5.d3 d6 *(5...d5 6.Nbd2 Bg7 7.e4 dxe4 8.dxe4 0-0 9.e5 Ng4 10.Re1 Na6 11.h3 Nh6 12.b3 Qd7 13.Bb2 Nc5 14.Qe2 Rad8 15.Rad1 Ne6 16.Nc4 Qc8 17.Ne3 Qa8 18.c4 Rfe8 19.Rxd8 Rxd8 20.Rd1* 12. ♕d3 dc3 13. ♖b1 12078 (2093)-Gurevich,H (2239) Delhi 2010 (7) 0-1*)* 6.e4 c5 7.Nbd2 *(7.c3 Bg7 8.Re1 e5 9.d4 Nbd7 10.d5 0-0 11.a4 Ne8 12.Na3 h6 13.Bd2 Nc7 14.Nc4 Qe7 15.b4* A 05/02 2000*)* 7...Bg7 8.Nh4 Nc6 9.f4 Qc7 10.a4 e6 11.Nc4 Nd7 12.c3 0-0 13.f5 A 05/02 2000]

5...Bg7 6.d4 0-0 7.d5 Na6 8.Nc3 Nc5! 9.Nd4 e5 White is slightly better.

10.Nc2 a5 11.b3 d6 12.e4 Bc8 13.Na3 Ne8 14.Nab5 Bd7 0.49/20
[14...f5!= -0.12/23]
15.Rb1 -0.02/24
[15.a3!± 0.49/20]
15...f5= 16.f3 f4 17.a3 -0.57/22
[17.Bd2= -0.21/21]
17...g5 0.06/22
[17...a4!∓ -0.57/22 18.Nxa4 Nxa4 19.bxa4 Bh6]
18.b4 Nb7 19.g4



h5! 20.h3
[20.gxh5 Nf6±]
[20.Bd2 Rf6]
20...Rf7 21.Kf2 Bf8 22.Rg1 Rh7 23.Bf1 Nf6 24.Ke1 Qc8 25.Rb2 Nd8 26.Qd3 -1.19/22
[26.bxa5∓ -0.40/23 Be7 *(26...Rxa5 27.Kd2=; 26...bxa5 27.c5=)* 27.axb6 cxb6 28.Rf2]
26...Nf7 -0.31/19
[26...axb4∓ -1.19/22 27.axb4 hxg4 28.hxg4 Nf7]
27.Kd1∓ Be7 28.Kc2 axb4 29.axb4 hxg4 30.hxg4 Ra1 31.Rb1 Rh2+ 32.Rg2 -0.22/20
[32.Kb3± 0.52/22 Rxb1+ 33.Qxb1]
32...Rxg2+= 33.Bxg2 Rxb1 34.Kxb1



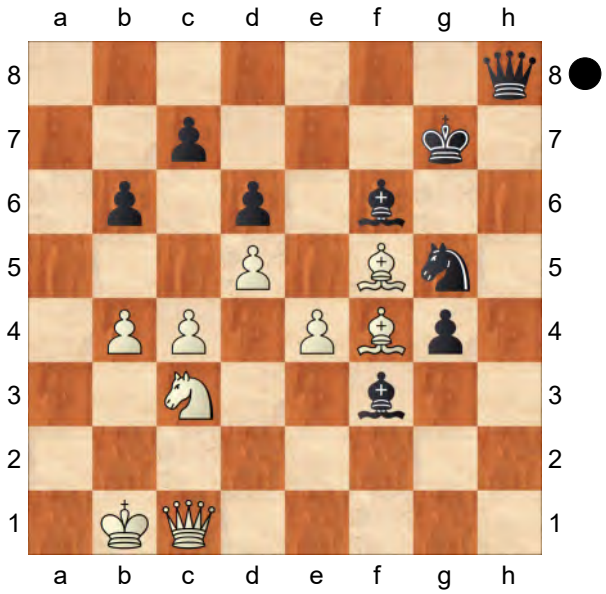
Nxg4! 35.fxg4 Bxg4 36.Bf3 Bh3 0.09/20
[⌓36...Bd7 -0.27/24]
37.Bh5! g4 38.Ne2 Bf1
[38...f3 keeps more tension. 39.Ng3 Bh4 40.Nf5 f2]
39.Qd1 Bg2 40.Bg6 Ng5 41.Nbc3 Bf3 42.Qf1 -0.93/22
[42.Qa4= -0.15/22]
42...Kg7!∓ 43.Bf5 Qh8↑ Threatens to win with ...g4-g3. Black is really pushing.
44.Nxf4 exf4 45.Bxf4 Bf6 -0.99/18
[45...Qh4!-+ -1.85/20 ...g4-g3 is the strong threat. 46.Kc2 Bf6]
46.Qc1 -1.99/24
[46.Qe1∓ -0.99/18]

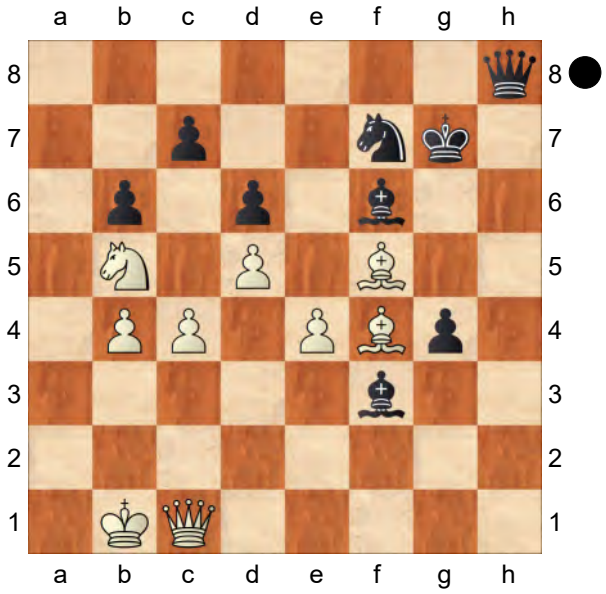
(Diagram)

46...Nf7!-+ 47.Nb5

(Diagram)

Qa8 -1.06/22
[Black should try 47...Qh3! -1.56/23 aiming for ...Bf3xe4+! 48.Ka2 *(48.Nxc7?* perishes. *Bxe4+*





Double Attack *49.Ka2 Bxf5-+)* 48...Kg8]

48.e5 -2.21/23

[48.Qa3∓ -1.06/22 Qxa3 49.Nxa3]

48...dxe5 -1.27/22

[Better is 48...Bxe5-+ -2.21/23 (-> ...Qa8-a1+) 49.Bxe5+ dxe5]

49.Bd2 -1.94/23

[49.Nxc7∓ -1.27/22 was necessary. Qa4 50.Qb2]

49...Nd6 50.Bh6+? -3.75/22

[50.Nxc7 -1.63/22 Qa4 51.Bc2]

50...Kf7 51.Nxd6+ cxd6 52.Bg5

And now Bf5-e6+ would win. **52...Qh8 53.Be3 e4 54.Bxb6?** -6.08/22

[54.Kc2 -3.10/19]

54...Qh2 55.Bg1 Qe2 56.b5 Qd3+ 57.Qc2 Qa3

Weighted Error Value: White=0.57/ Black=0.14 (very precise)

0-1

E21

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**

■ **Martirosyan,Haik M** **2675**

Astana Satty Zhuldyz Blitz (1) 24.04.23

[Kitty Kat]

E21: Nimzo-Indian: 4 Nf3

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd2 b6 6.Nf3 Bb7 7.Bd3 Bxc3 8.Bxc3 Ne4 9.Bxe4

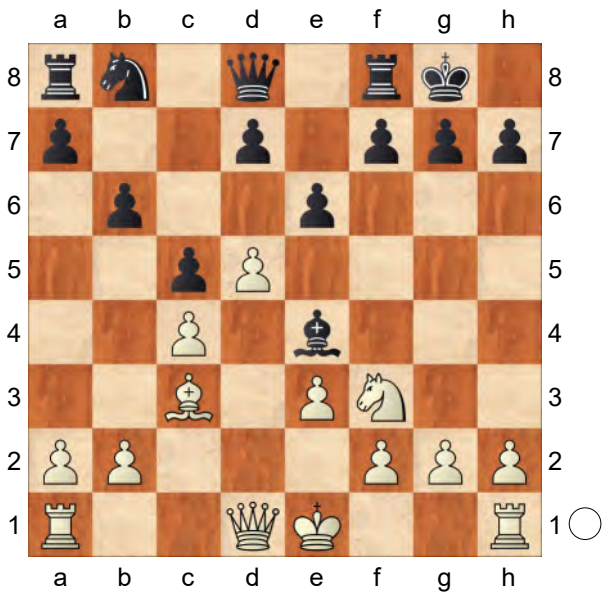
[9.Rc1 d6 10.0-0 Nxc3 11.Rxc3 Nd7 12.Nd2 f5 13.f4 Qf6 14.Qe1 c5 15.Qf2 g6 16.Be2 e5 17.dxe5 dxe5 18.Bf3 e4 19.Be2 Rad8 20.Rc2 Nb8 21.Nb1 Nc6 22.a3 Nd4 23.Rd2 Nb3 7.♘c3 ♘f6 8.♗g5 e6 9. 00 (2462)-9. ♗ h4 d5 10.e3 ♘bd7 69281 (2520) Copenhagen 1997 (3) ½-½]

9...Bxe4 10.d5 c5N 0.95/22

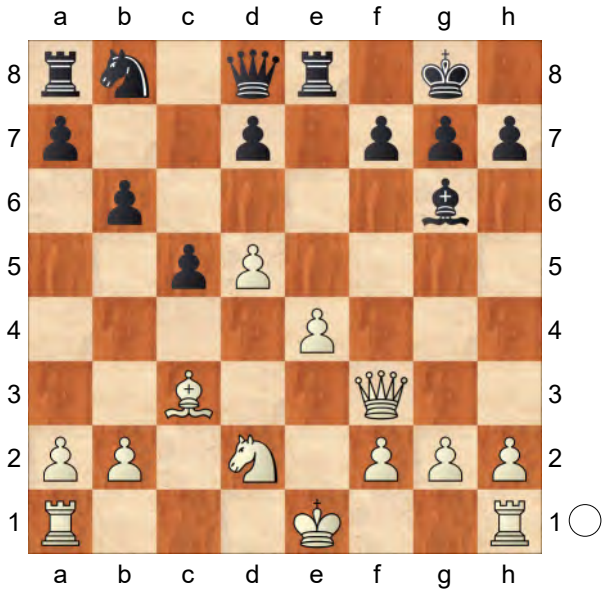
[10...exd5± 0.44/22 11.Qd4 Qf6 *(11...f6 12.cxd5 Re8 13.Nd2±)*]

[10...f6 11.Nd2 Bg6 12.h4 Bf7 13.h5 h6 14.Qf3 e5 15.Ne4 d6 16.Ng3 Be8 17.e4 Bd7 18.Nf5 Bxf5 19.Qxf5 Qd7 20.g4 Qxf5 21.gxf5 a5 22.Ke2 Nd7 23.b3 Nc5 24.f3 Rfb8 25.Rhc1 Vijayakumar,A (2065)-Harms, R (1838) New Westminster BC Day 2024 (8) 1-0]

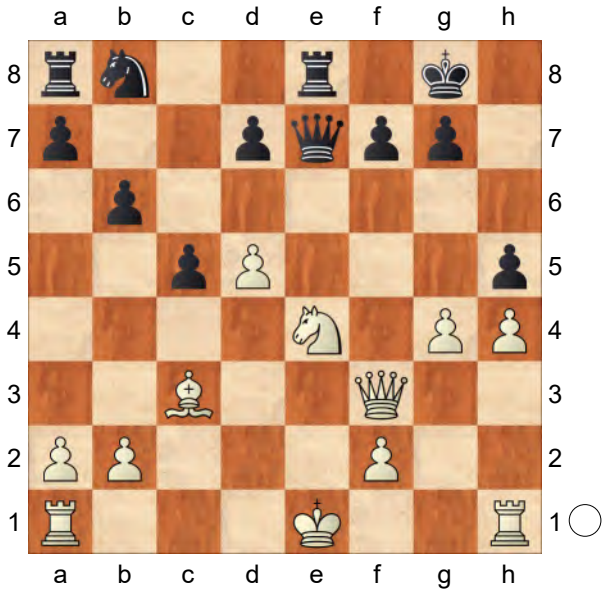
(Diagram)



Prevents Qd1-d4 **11.Nd2!±** White is better. **11...Bf5** 1.55/23
[Black should try 11...exd5 1.08/23 12.Nxe4 dxe4]
12.e4 exd5 13.cxd5→ Black is in trouble.
[13.exf5 Re8+ *(13...d4 14.0-0±)* 14.Kf1 d4∓]
13...Re8 2.47/22 Black cannot hold the game after this.
[13...Bxe4± 1.06/20 was necessary. 14.Nxe4 Qe7]
14.Qf3+- Bg6



15.h4! aiming for h4-h5. **15...h5** 3.28/23
[⌓15...Qe7 2.19/22]
16.g4 Bxe4 17.Nxe4 Qe7



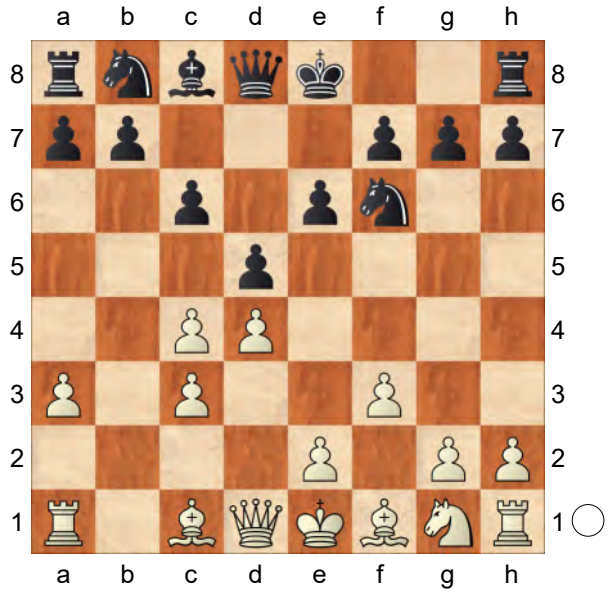
18.0-0-0! Qxe4 19.Qxe4 Rxe4 20.gxh5 f6 21.Rdg1 Kh7 4.33/25
[⌓21...Kf7 3.02/21 22.Rh2 Na6]
22.Rg6 Na6 23.Rhg1 Re7 24.h6 Nb4 6.80/23
[⌓24...Rf7 4.05/22 25.Rxg7+ *(25.hxg7 Rg8+-)* 25...Rxg7 26.Rxg7+ Kxh6 27.Rxd7 *(27.Bxf6 Rf8+-)* 27...Kg6]
25.Bxb4 White is clearly winning.
[Weaker is 25.hxg7 Nxa2+ 26.Kd2 Nxc3±]
[25.Rxg7+ Rxg7 26.Rxg7+ Kxh6 27.Rxd7 *(27.Bxf6? Rf8∓)* 27...Nxa2+ 28.Kc2 Kg6+-]
25...cxb4 26.Rxg7+
[Less strong is 26.hxg7 Rg8 27.R1g4 *(27.Rxf6 Rgxg7 28.Rg3 Re1+ 29.Kc2 Rh1±)* 27...Re5±]
26...Rxg7 27.hxg7 Endgame. KR-KR
[Not 27.Rxg7+ Kxh6 28.Rxd7 Kh5+-]
27...Kg8 28.h5 Rc8+ 29.Kd2 Rc5 30.h6 Intending h6-h7+! and mate.
30...Rxd5+ 31.Ke3 Threatening mate

with h6-h7+! **31...Rh5 32.Rg6 Rh3+ 33.f3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.00 (flawless) /Black=0.51. Loss on time!?
0-1

E20

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Martirosyan,Haik M** **2675**
Astana Satty Zhuldyz Blitz (1) 24.04.23
[Kitty Kat]

E20: Nimzo-Indian: 4 g3 and 4 f3
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c6



7.e4! is recently more successful than 7.e3. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 7.e3. **7...dxe4 8.fxe4 e5! 9.Nf3** The position is equal. **9...Bg4 10.Qd3**
[10.Be2 Nbd7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Bg5 Bxf3 13.Bxf3 h6 14.Bh4 Qa5 15.Qe1 Rfe8 16.Kh1 Qa6 17.c5 b6 18.cxb6 axb6 19.Qb1 Qa5 20.Qd3 b5 21.h3 Qa4 22.Rfb1 Qa5 23.Kh2 Qc7 24.Bg3 Ra4 Skopec,L (2619)-Ojasuo,A (2700) Enghien les Bains 2003 (5) 0-1]
[10.Bd3 exd4 11.0-0 dxc3 12.e5 Nfd7 13.Bc2 Na6 14.Qe1 Bxf3 15.Rxf3 Qe7 16.Bf4 Nac5 17.Qxc3 Ne6 18.Bg3 0-0 19.Re1 Ndc5 20.Bf5 Rad8 21.Bf2 Rfe8 22.h4 b5 23.Rf1 bxc4 24.Qxc4 Rd5 Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2734)-Behrmann (2560) 2011 (1.5) 1-0]
10...exd4N
[10...Nbd7 11.dxe5 Nh5 12.Be2 0-0 13.0-0 Qb6+ 14.Rf2 Rfe8 15.Be3 Qc7 16.c5 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Nxe5 18.Qc2 Ng6 19.Kh1 Nhf4 20.Bc4 Rad8 21.Rd1 Rxd1+ 22.Qxd1 Rd8 23.Rd2 Rxd2 24.Qxd2 Kf8 25.Bf2 6.♘a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2689)-Puccini,J (2576) 45: Lloyds Bank 1994 (5.3) 1-0]
11.cxd4 c5! 12.d5
[12.dxc5 0-0 13.e5 Qxd3 14.Bxd3 Nfd7=]
12...0-0! 13.Be2 Re8 14.e5N
[Predecessor: 14.h3 Bh5! 15.e5! Nfd7 Strongly threatening ...Bh5xf3! 16.0-0 Threatens to win with Bc1-f4. *(16.g4!? Bg6□ 17.Qc3=)* 16...Nxe5 17.Nxe5 Bxe2 18.Qxe2 Nd7! 19.Bb2 f6 20.Rf5 aiming for Ra1-e1! Nxe5 21.Bxe5 And now Ra1-e1! would win. g6 22.Qg4 Qc8 23.Raf1 ½-½ (23) Menendez Rodriguez,G (2357)-Zunkovic,S (2279) ICCF email 2019]
14...Bxf3 Remove Defender **15.Qxf3 Rxe5 16.Bb2 Re8 17.0-0 Nbd7 18.Bd3 Qe7 19.Qf5** -0.91/24
[19.Rad1= -0.21/23 remains equal.]
19...Qe3+!∓ 20.Kh1 Ne5 0.05/27 Inhibits Rf1-f3.
[Black should play 20...g6∓ -1.07/21 21.Qf3 Qxf3 22.gxf3 Rad8]
21.Bc2 Neg4 22.h3⇄ White is fighting back **22...Qh6 23.Bc1** This pair of bishops is nice. **23...Ne3?** 1.63/22

[23...Re3= 0.00/24 and Black is okay. 24.Bxe3 Nxe3]

24.Qf3+- White has strong compensation. **24...Re5** 2.97/24

[24...Nfg4± 1.55/21 was worth a try.]

25.Rb1? 0.91/20

[25.d6+- 2.97/24]

25...b6? 3.24/21

[25...Rae8± 0.91/20]

26.d6 Rf8 27.Rb3? -0.14/20

[27.Re1+- 3.99/22 Qh4 28.Rxe3 *(28.Bxe3 Qxc4 29.Qf4 Qc3+-)* 28...Rxe3 29.Bxe3]

27...Nfg4= Really sharp! **28.d7?** -2.35/23

[28.Be4? Rxe4 *(28...Qxd6 29.Bxe3 Rxe4 30.hxg4±)* 29.Qxe4 Nxf1-+ *(29...Qxd6? 30.Qf4+-)*]

[28.Rxe3!= -0.23/24 Nxe3 29.Re1]

28...Qe6!-+ 29.hxg4 Nxc2

[29...Nxf1 30.Qd3 Rd8 *(30...Ng3+? 31.Kh2+-)* 31.Qxh7+ Kf8 32.Bf5±]

30.Bb2 Nd4 31.Bxd4 cxd4 32.Qf4 Re1? 0.00/34

[32...Qxc4? 33.Rbf3 Rd5 34.Rc1+-]

[32...Rd8-+ -3.09/23 33.Qxd4 Rxd7 *(33...Qxd7? too greedy. 34.Qxe5 Qxg4 35.Rg3+-)*]

33.Rxe1= Qxe1+ Endgame. KQR-KQR **34.Kh2 Rd8** White must now prevent ... Qe1-h4+. **35.Qxd4 Qh4+ 36.Rh3 Qe7** 5.14/36

[36...Qf6!= 0.00/25 37.Qe4 Qd6+ 38.Kg1 Kf8 *(38...Rxd7?* perishes. *39.Qxh7+ Kf8 40.Qh8+ Ke7 41.Re3++-)*]

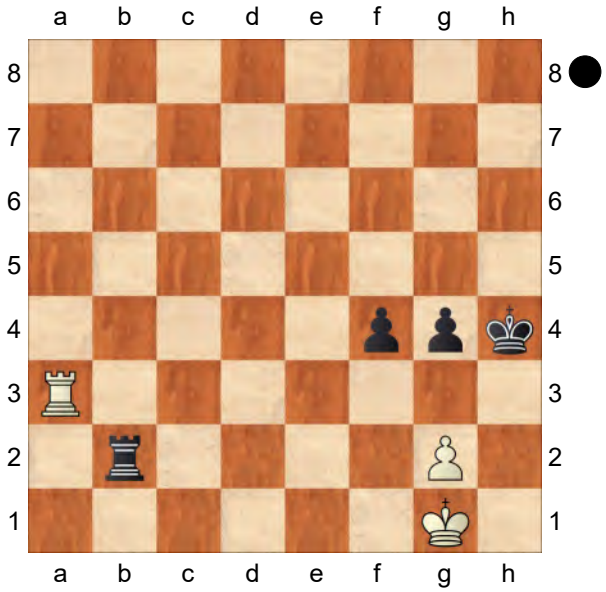
37.Rd3? 0.00/34

[Only move: 37.Re3!+- 5.14/36 Kf8 38.Rxe7 Kxe7 39.Qe5+ *(39.Qxg7 Rxd7 40.Qxh7 Rd6+-)* 39...Kxd7 40.Qxg7]

37...h6 38.a4 Qh4+ 39.Rh3 Qe7 40.Rd3 Kf8 41.a5 Qc5 42.axb6 axb6 43.Qxc5+ bxc5 KR-KR **44.Rd5 Ke7 45.Rxc5 Rxd7 46.g5 hxg5 47.Rxg5 Kf6 48.Ra5 Rd3 49.Ra6+ Kg5 50.Ra7 Kg6 51.c5 Rc3 52.Rc7 f5 53.c6 f4 54.Rc8 Kg5 55.c7 Kg4 56.Ra8 Rxc7 57.Ra4 Rc2 58.Ra7 g6 59.Ra6 g5 60.Ra4 Kh4 61.Rb4 Re2 62.Ra4 Kh5 63.Kg1 Rb2 64.Rc4 Kg4 65.Rc3 Rb1+ 66.Kf2 Rb2+ 67.Kg1 Re2 68.Ra3 Re3 69.Ra5 Kh4 70.Kf2 Rb3 71.Ra8?** -8.28/37

[71.Ra4= -0.06/26]

71...Rb2+-+ 72.Kg1 g4! 73.Ra3



Rb1+! 74.Kf2 g3+ 75.Kf3 Rf1+ 76.Ke4

(Diagram)

Kg4? -0.04/20

[76...f3!-+ -8.30/39 77.Rxf3 Rf2 78.Rf4+ Kg5]

77.Ra8= Re1+

[77...Rf2!? 78.Rg8+□ Kh5=]

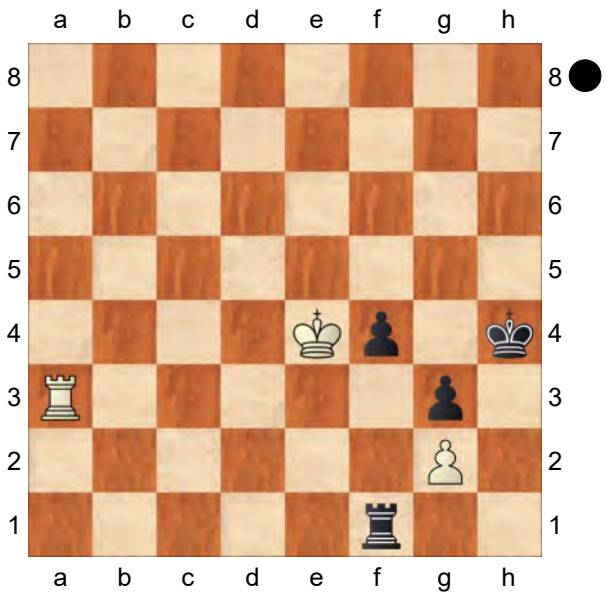
78.Kd3 Rg1 79.Rg8+? -8.29/41

[79.Ke4= 0.00/29]

79...Kf5-+ 80.Rf8+ Ke5

[80...Kg6 81.Rxf4 Rxg2]

81.Re8+ Kd5? 0.00/21 **82.Rd8+?** -7.43/39



[82.Rf8= 0.00/21]

82...Ke6? 0.00/33 **83.Re8+?** -7.43/28

[83.Ke4= 0.00/33]

83...Kf7 Black is clearly winning. **84.Re4 Rf1** ...f4-f3 would now be deadly. **85.Re2 Kf6** Hoping for ...Kf6-f5. **86.Ra2 Kf5 87.Ra8 f3 88.Rf8+ Ke5 89.Re8+ Kd6** A wild game.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/ Black=0.38

0-1

B22

□ **Giri,Anish** **2764**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**

Danzhou 13th rapid (6) 14.12.2022

[Fitzsimons, David]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3 d5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.d4 Nf6 6.Na3 a6 7.Nc4 Nbd7 8.Be2 One of two main moves for White here.

[8.a4!? is the other one, 1/2 (32) -1/2 (32) Smerdon,D (2513)-David,A (2565) Tromso NOR 2014 [Smerdon, David]]

8...b5! This looks like the most critical response from Black.outshines the older 8...cxd4. erfolgreicher als das alte 8... cxd4.

[8...cxd4 9.Nxd4! *(9.Qxd4!?* is also possible, but Black should be able to equalise after *Bc5! 10.Qxd5 Nxd5 11.a4 b6 12.0-0* 1-0 (44) Bacrot,E (2653)-Predke, A (2684) chess.com INT 2023, and now *a5!?*= should give Black his fair share of the chances.*)* 9...e5 10.Nf5 Nc5 11.Nfe3!? looks pretty good for White after Qxd1+ 12.Nxd1 Nfd7 13.Nde3 b5 14.Na5 Nf6 15.Nc6!± as given by Dave Smerdon in the archives.]

9.Ne3 A natural retreat, gaining a tempo.

[9.Na5!? Bd6 Black wants to dislodge the Knight on a5 with ...Bd6-c7. *(9...Be7 10.0-0±* This looks a bit better for White. If Black tries to kick the Knight away with *Bd8??* White has the very strong response *11.Ng5! Qd6* If the Black dark-squared Bishop was on c7, Black would be threatening mate here! *12.Bf3 h6* 1-0 (38) Demchenko,A (2625) -Rahman,Z (2459) chess.com INT 2023. Now, *13.Ne4! Nxe4 14.Bxe4 Ra7 15.Nc6* leads to a crushing advantage in the ending after *Rc7 16.Nxd8 Kxd8 17.dxc5 Qxd1 18.Rxd1 Rxc5 19.Be3+-* with the two Bishops for White and Black's King in the centre.*)* 10.c4! White makes use of the pawn on b5 to open up the position. bxc4 11.Nxc4 0-0 Black needs to finish his development, even at the expense of the dark-squared Bishop. 12.Nxd6 Qxd6 13.dxc5 White continues to open things up for his Bishops. Qxc5 *(13...Qxd1+!?* is also quite possible. *14.Bxd1 Nxc5 15.0-0 a5=*

gives Black enough counterplay on the light squares.*)* 14.0-0 a5 15.Be3 Qb4= Black has an outpost on the d5-square and should be able to engineer the exchange of light-squared Bishops with ...Bc8-a6. Therefore, White's pair of Bishops isn't too threatening and chances are equal.]

[9.Nfd2!? is a tactical attempt to take advantage of Black's exposed major pieces on the long diagonal. The calm Ra7! is a sufficient response, however. 10.Bf3 Qf5 11.Ne3 Qf4! The Queen looks potentially vulnerable here but she can easily retreat to the "Sicilian" square on c7. *(11...Qg6?!* 0-1 (63) Saravana,K (2244)-Das,S (2475) New Delhi IND 2022. This leaves the Queen somewhat out of play after *12.0-0 cxd4 13.cxd4 Be7 14.a4±* since White can pursue his initiative on the Queenside.*)* 12.a4 cxd4 13.cxd4 Qc7!? Protecting the Rook on a7 and clearing the way for ...Bf8-d6. 14.axb5 axb5 15.Rxa7 Qxa7 16.Qc2 Qb8! 17.Qc6 Bd6= with castling to follow and equal chances for Black.]

9...Qc6

[9...Qd6?! 1-0 (38) Shaw,J (2480) - Hanley,C (2387) Blackpool ENG 2003 [Gary Lane]]

10.a4

[10.0-0

A) 10...Be7!? looks like the most accurate move-order, prioritising castling before White can open the centre. 11.a4 *(11.c4 0-0!=* is no problem for Black.*)* 11...Bb7 transposes to the mainline.;

B) 10...Bb7?! This has been the most common move in practice, although the sample space of games is admittedly very small. 11.a4?! *(11.c4!N* looks stronger. Black is best advised to continue developing with *Be7!* and allow complications that arise after *12.d5 exd5 13.Nf5! bxc4! 14.Nxg7+ Kd8! 15.Nf5* when White is a pawn down but with Black's King stuck in the centre. Black's position is probably objectively fine but difficult to handle in practice. For example, *Re8 16.Re1 Ne4 17.Bf1! Qg6 18.Nxe7 Rxe7 19.Bf4⩲* with at least enough compensation. *)*

B1) 11...b4? is much weaker: 12.Bd2! *(12.cxb4! cxb4 13.Bd2±* is also very strong.*)* 12...bxc3 13.Bxc3 Rc8 14.Rc1± gives White a big lead in development.;

B2) 11...Be7! transposes to the mainline. 12.dxc5 Qxc5 13.Qb3 White tries to keep up the pressure, but Black has a way to neutralise it:

B2a) 13...b4?! 14.Bd2

B2a1) 14...bxc3!? 15.Qxb7 With White's King tucked away safely on g1, ...c3xd2 doesn't come with check. Rb8 *(15...Ra7?? 16.b4!* is a very important tactical point, which clearly wouldn't work for White with the King still on e1! *Rxb7 17.bxc5 cxd2 18.c6+-)* 16.Qxa6 cxd2 17.Nxd2 0-0 18.b3 Qb4 19.Rfd1± Black doesn't have quite enough for the pawn here.;

B2a2) 14...Ne4 15.Be1! a5

and now 16.Bb5 Nef6 17.cxb4 axb4 18.Nc2! Rc8 19.Nfd4!± looks strong for White. *(19.Nxb4!?± is also good.)*;

B2b) 13...Nd5! White won't be able to cash in on b5 yet due to the threat of ...Nd5-f4.

B2b1) 14.axb5 Nf4! 15.Nd4 Nxe2+ *(15...0-0!?⩱ gives Black good compensation.)* 16.Nxe2 Qxb5= looks fine for Black.;

B2b2) 14.Nxd5 Bxd5 15.Qc2 b4 16.Be3 Qc7= is nothing for White.;

B2b3) 14.Nc2 White covers f4 and maintains the pressure on b5. 14...Qb6! Black clears the way for his Knight to reach c5 with tempo. 15.axb5 Nc5 16.Qc4 0-0! Black has excellent compensation. A sample line is 17.Nfd4 axb5 18.Qxb5 Qc7 19.Rxa8 Rxa8 20.Nb4 Nxb4 *(20...Ra5!?⩱ is also fine.)* 21.Qxb4 Ra4= 22.Qb5 Ra5

B2b31) 23.Qb4 Black can repeat or play on with Bd6!?⩱ *(23...Ra4=)*;

B2b32) 23.Qe8+ After 23.Qb4 Black is not obliged to repeat the position and can continue with 23...Bd6 with multiple threats. 23...Bf8= repeats. 24.Nb5 Qe5 25.Nd4 Ra2⩱ Black has tremendous activity for the pawn. This whole line looks fine for Black, but I'd prefer to start with 10... Be7 in order to avoid the 11 c4! possibility. *(25...Qc7=* repeats. *)*]

10...Bb7! This was considered best by Gary Lane in the archives, and I think he was right!

[10...Rb8 is somewhat cooperative, and White has an edge following 11.axb5 axb5 12.0-0 Be7 13.dxc5 Qxc5 14.Nd4± 1/2-1/2 (56) Alsina Leal,D (2480)-Martinez Alcantara,J (2561) Linares ESP 2018]

[10...b4 is exactly what White is hoping for: 11.cxb4 cxb4 12.Bd2± with a strong initiative on the Queenside, 1-0 (28) Zhigalko,S (2669) -Hoffmann,M (2471) Bad Wiessee GER 2016]

11.axb5 White decides to release the tension along the a-file.

[11.dxc5 is another possibility, recommended by Lorenzini in his Alapin database for Modern Chess. Qxc5 Black wants to meet Qd1-b3 with ...b5-b4. *(* Capturing with the Bishop is probably slightly weaker after *11...Bxc5?! 12.axb5 axb5 13.Rxa8+ Bxa8 14.Nd4±* with strong pressure for White. *)*

A) 12.Qb3!? is another try, keeping the tension for the moment. b4! 13.0-0 White castles before trying to increase the pressure on the b-pawn. *(13.Bd2?!* illustrates what happens if White plays with the King on e1: *bxc3! 14.Qxb7 cxd2+!* This check saves Black: Compare with the analogous lines after 10 0-0. *15.Nxd2 Ra7 16.Qb3 Be7=* followed by castling, with equal

chances. *)* 13...Rb8= Black's Queenside is secured and he can look forward to finishing his Kingside development.;

B) 12.axb5 axb5 13.Rxa8+ Bxa8 14.Nd4 This is the most ambitious attempt for White, inducing b4 which can be met by 15.Qa4 although Black is holding after Qc8 16.0-0 bxc3 17.bxc3 Bc5 18.Nb3 0-0! 19.Nxc5 Nxc5 20.Qa7± Lorenzini stops here claiming an edge for White, but my engine disagrees claiming zeroes after Nce4= for example. The fact that Black's position is weakness-free and White has no targets on the Queenside negates the potential superiority of White's two Bishops.]

11...axb5 12.Rxa8+ Bxa8 13.0-0

[13.dxc5 would transpose to the note to White's eleventh move.]

13...Bd6?! This leaves the Bishop somewhat exposed.

[13...Be7! is safer, with no problems for Black after 14.dxc5 Qxc5=]

14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.Qd4?!N Not the most challenging attempt from White.

[Predecessor: 15.Nc2 0-0 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Ncd4 Qb8 18.Bxb5 Ne5 19.Be2 Neg4 20.Bc1 Bxh2+ 21.Kh1 0-1 (27) Yoo,C (2532)-Praggnanandhaa,R (2624) Chess.com INT 2022]

[15.Nd4! looks like the best way to take advantage of the Bishop on d6. b4 16.Nb5 Be7 17.cxb4 Qb6 The Queen must protect the c7-square. This gives White the opportunity to safeguard his extra pawn on b4 with 18.Qc2 0-0 19.Bd2± retaining a slight advantage.]

[15.Bxb5!? is another tactical opportunity for White, but Black seems to be OK following Bxh2+! 16.Nxh2 Qxb5 17.Qd6 Qc5! 18.Qxc5 Nxc5 19.b4 Nd3 20.Rd1 Nxc1 21.Rxc1 Kd7⇄ Even though White's Queenside passers look scary, Black's pieces should be sufficiently active to hold the balance.]

15...Qc7?! Probably not the most accurate, although Black's position is also solid enough after this retreat.

[15...Bxf3! seems to be a cleaner equaliser. 16.Bxf3 0-0 17.Rd1 Qxd4 18.Rxd4 *(18.cxd4 Nb6=* looks very solid for Black.*)* 18...Bc5 19.Rd1 Ne5 20.Be2 Rb8= Black seems to have enough play despite White's pair of Bishops due to his active pieces.]

16.Qh4?! This fails to pose any challenges for Black.

[16.Bxb5! is critical. Black seems to have enough compensation after 0-0! 17.Rd1 Bc5 18.Qa4 Bxf3 19.gxf3 Ne5 20.Be2 Qb7⩲ with counterplay against White's somewhat exposed King.]

16...Bxf3! 17.Bxf3 0-0 18.Be2 Rb8= We've seen similar positions in some of the earlier notes. Black is very solid and White's pieces don't coordinate very well.

19.Rd1 h6

[19...b4!?⇄ also gives Black enough counterplay.]

20.g3 White tries to blunt the attack on h2 and free his Queen for active duty.

[20.Nc2 attempts to free the dark-squared Bishop, but Black's Knights are hopping all over the place after Ne5 21.Bf4 Nd5 22.Bg3 Nc4= with plenty of activity.]

20...Ne5 Black's activity is becoming somewhat troubling for White and he should seek exchanges. **21.Bd2?!**

[21.Ng4!? is better, but Black is still fine after Nfxg4 22.Bxg4 Be7 23.Qh5 Bf6!= With ...b5-b4 to follow, Black has enough play.]

21...Ra8∓ 22.Qh3?! The Queen remains out of play here.

[22.c4!? is a better try. b4 23.Nc2 Ng6 24.Qd4 Bc5 25.Qd3 Ne5 26.Qb3 Qb7∓ only slightly favours Black.]

22...Ra2?! This is natural and works out perfectly in the game, but it's not the most accurate way for Black to pursue the initiative.

[22...Bc5!∓ is a very strong preparatory move. Black follow up by invading on a2 with the Rook and placing the Queen on a7, with ...Nf6-e4 also looking like a powerful idea. White is under serious pressure.]

23.Rb1?? The Rook is too passive here.

[23.Bc1! holds firm and limits Black to a slight edge after Bc5∓]

23...Ne4! 24.Be1 Bc5-+ Black now has a decisive advantage and doesn't let the win slip. **25.Qg2 f5 26.Nc2?!**

[26.Bxb5 was a better try, but Black is still winning after Bxe3 27.fxe3 Qb6 28.Qe2 Ng5-+ with a very strong attack.]

26...b4 27.c4 Qb6

[27...b3 28.Na1 Qb7-+ looks even better.]

28.Bf3 b3 White is bound to lose material sooner or later. **29.Bxe4 fxe4 30.Ne3 Bxe3 31.fxe3**

[31.Qxe4 is preferred by the engine, but Black is obviously winning after Bd4-+]

31...Qxe3+ 32.Qf2 Nf3+

[32...Qd3 is also crushing: 33.Rc1 Ng4 34.Qd2 Qxd2 35.Bxd2 Rxb2-+ with an easy win.]

33.Kg2 Nxe1+

[33...Qd3-+ also works, but Black sees that the Rook ending is winning and goes for that instead.]

34.Rxe1 Qxf2+ 35.Kxf2 Rxb2+ 36.Ke3 Rxh2-+ Black has too many extra pawns. **37.Kxe4 Kf7 38.Re3 Rc2 39.Kd4 b2 40.Rb3 h5 41.c5 g5 42.c6 Kf6** It looks like Black can successfully solve his problems after 8 Be2 b5 regardless of which Knight move White goes for.

0-1

E04

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**

■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**

Meltwater Tour Final rapid (2.3) 16.11.22

[Kitty Kat]

E04: Open Catalan: 5 Nf3

1.d4 0 **Nf6** 0 **2.c4** 3 **e6** 32 **3.Nf3** 3 **d5** 2 **4.g3** 2 **dxc4** 2:01 **5.Bg2** 1 **Bb4+** 1 **6.Bd2** 3 **a5** 1 **7.a3** 37 **Bxd2+** 38 **8.Nbxd2** 2 **b5** 2 **9.b3** 1 The position is equal. **9...cxb3** 5 **10.Qxb3** 28 **c6** 2 **11.0-0** 7 White has compensation. **11...0-0** 6 **12.Rfc1** 40 **Bb7** 59 **13.Qb2** 2:00 **Nbd7** 12 **14.Ne1** 56 **e5N** 2:38

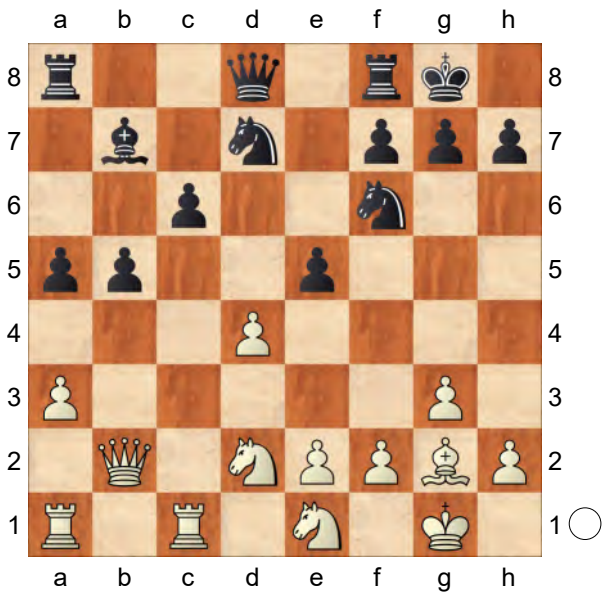
[14...Nd5 15.Nd3 Qe7 16.e4 N5b6 17.e5 Slav 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.O-O-Catalan open 4... dxc4 5.Nf3]

(Diagram)

Deflection **15.dxe5** 1:39

[15.Bxc6 Bxc6 16.Rxc6 Rb8=]

15...Nxe5 1 **16.Qxe5** 0 **Qxd2** 2 **17.Rd1** 1 **Qh6** 7 **18.Qc7** 2 **Rab8** 44 **19.Nd3** 41 **Qh5** 35 **20.Bf3↑** 25 White fights for an advantage.



[20.Bxc6 Rfc8 21.Qxb7 Rxb7 22.Bxb7 Rb8-+]

20...Qf5 4 **21.Rac1** 3 **b4** 0.91/22 1:35

22.Nc5± 1:17 **Ba8** 53 **23.Qxa5** 3

[23.Bxc6? Rbc8 *(23...bxa3 24.Bxa8 Rfc8 25.Qd6∓)* 24.Qxa5 Bxc6-+ *(24...Rxc6? 25.Rd8-+* Back Rank *)*]

[23.Rd3 is interesting. Qg5 24.Rc4 bxa3 25.h4]

23...bxa3 1.15/21 54

[23...Rb5!± 0.61/26 24.Qa7 b3]

24.Qxa3 0 **h6** 17 **25.e4** 1:03 **Qe5** 14 **26.Nd3** 0.48/22 17

[26.Qa7± 0.89/21]

26...Qe6 0.84/21 28

[26...Qc7± 0.48/22]

(Diagram)

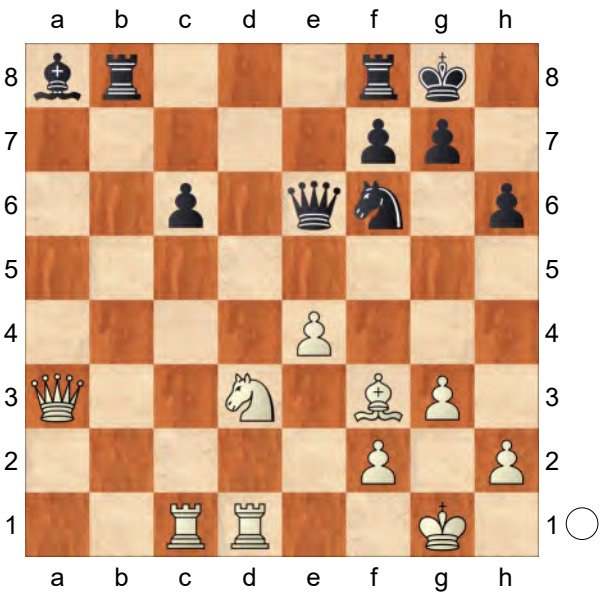
27.e5 0.04/26 32

[27.Nc5!± 0.84/21 Qe5 28.Qa1]

27...c5 2:08 **28.exf6** 2:06 **Bxf3** 2 **29.fxg7** 2 **Rfd8** 11

[29...Bxd1? 30.gxf8Q+ *(30.gxf8R+ Rxf8 31.Rxd1 Qe2+-)* 30...Rxf8 31.Rxd1+-]

30.Re1 2:02



[30.Nf4 Rxd1+ 31.Rxd1 Qe4]

30...Qb3 20 Chess con chili. **31.Qxb3** 4 **Rxb3** 0 **32.Nf4** 1:15 **Rc8** 11

[32...Kxg7 simplifies 33.Rxc5 Rdb8 34.Kf1 Rb1]

33.h3 25 **c4** 17 **34.Rc2** -0.51/23 57

[34.g4= -0.02/24 is more appropriate.]

34...c3!∓ 1:12 **35.g4** -1.35/28 41

[Better is 35.Rec1∓ -0.52/26]

35...Rb2!∓ 1:32

[Stronger than 35...Kxg7 36.Nh5+ Kg6 37.Re3=]

36.Rcc1 10 **c2** 2 ...Rc8-d8! is the strong threat. Black has more active pieces.

[Much worse is 36...Kxg7?! 37.Re3 c2 38.Nd3= *(38.Rxf3 Rd8=; 38.Nh5+ Kf8∓)*]

37.Nh5? -4.11/26 1:24 White does not recover from this.

[37.Kh2∓ -1.18/25]

37...Rcb8 10 **38.Kh2** 38 **Rb1** 23 ...Bf3-d1 would now be deadly. **39.Kg3?** -4.53/24 26

[39.Re8+ -1.73/20 Rxe8 40.Nf6+ Kxg7 41.Nxe8+ Kf8 42.Rxc2 Kxe8 43.Rc3]

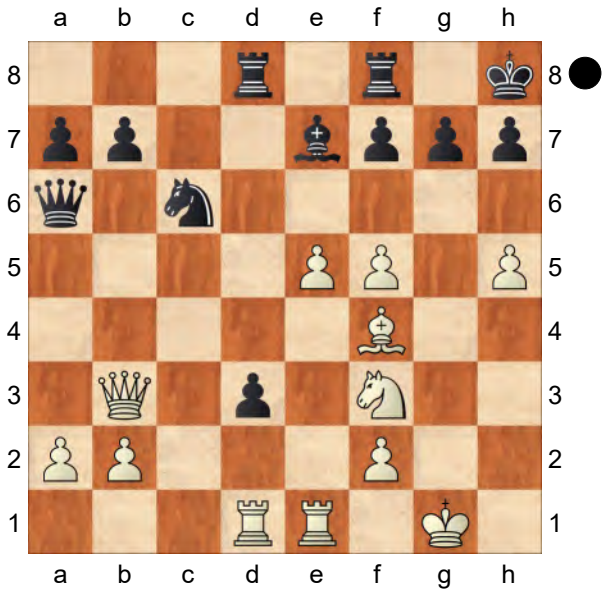
39...Bd1-+ 32 Black is clearly winning.

40.Rxc2 21 **Bxc2** 1 **41.Re3** 9 **Bg6** 1
Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/ Black=0.15 (very precise)
0-1

C43

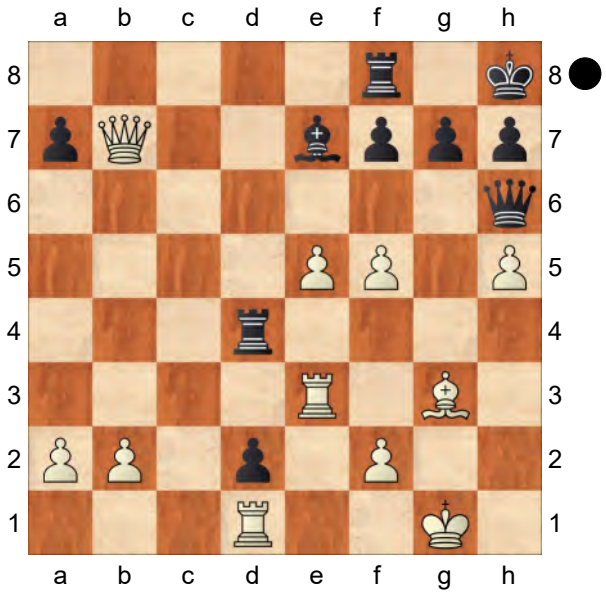
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**
Meltwater Tour Final rapid (2.3) 16.11.22
[Kitty Kat]

C43: Petroff Defence: 3 d4
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d4 Nxe4 4.dxe5 d5 5.Nbd2 Nxd2 6.Bxd2 Be7 7.Bd3N
[7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 c5 9.Bf4 Nc6 10.Qd2 Be6 11.c3 Qd7 12.h3 Rad8 13.Rfd1 h6 14.Bd3 Bf5 15.Bg3 Bxd3 16.Qxd3 Qe6 17.a3 b6 18.b4 d4 19.cxd4 Nxd4 20.Nxd4 Rxd4 21.Qa6 Rxd1+ Model Games-Ian Nepomniachtchi Shakhriy 22.Rxd1 cxb4 23.axb4 Bxb4 24.Qxa7 Bc5 25.Kh2 h5 26.h4 Rc8 27.Qb7 Qf5 28.Rd2 Re8 29.Qc6 Rc8 30.Qb7 Re8 31.Qc6 Nepomniachtchi,I (2751)-Mamedyarov,S (2809) 11th Tal Mem Rapid 2018 (9.5) ½-½]
7...c5 8.c3 White is slightly better. White is slightly better. **8...Nc6 9.0-0 Bg4 10.Re1 0-0N**
[10...Qd7 11.h3 Bh5 12.Bf4 Qe6 Quickstarter-Petroff with 3 d4 Sidelines #]
11.h3 Bh5 12.Bf5 Repels Qd8-d7
12...Kh8 13.Qe2 Qb6 14.Bf4 Rae8 15.Rad1 d4 16.g4 Bg6 17.Qc2 Rd8 18.h4 0.00/23
[18.Kg2± 0.44/22]
[18.a3± 0.48/22]
18...Qa6!= 19.cxd4
[19.Qe4 simplifies Qxa2 20.cxd4 Bxf5 21.gxf5 d4-d5 is the strong threat. Qd5 22.Qxd5 Rxd5 23.dxc5 Rfd8! 24.Rxd5 Rxd5 25.b4]
19...cxd4 Black wants to play ...d4-d3.
20.Qb3 d3 21.h5 -0.87/22
[21.Re3= -0.24/24 feels stronger.]
[21.Re3= -0.17/24]
21...Bxf5∓ 22.gxf5

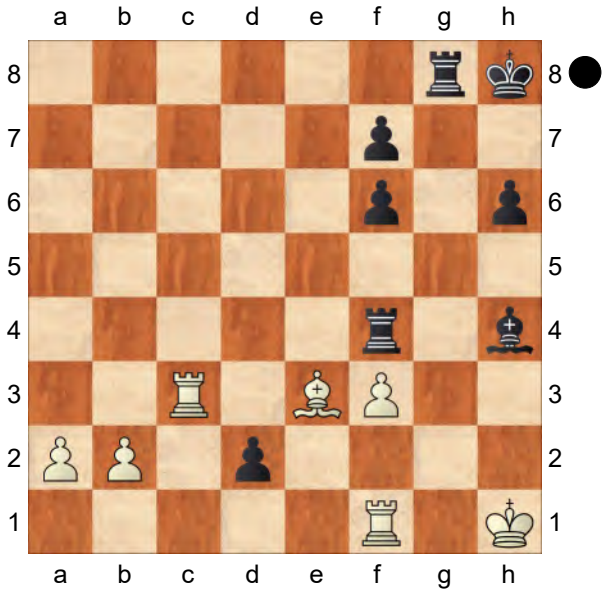


Nd4! 23.Nxd4
[23.Qxd3 Ne2+ 24.Qxe2 Qxe2 *(24...Qxa2? 6.09/20 24...Qa6xe2 -0.94 25.h6+-)* 25.Rxe2 Rxd1+ 26.Kg2 Rd5∓]
[23.Qxd3 Ne2+! 24.Qxe2 Qxe2 *(24...Qxa2? 25.h6+-)* 25.Rxe2 Rxd1+ 26.Kg2 Rd5]
23...Rxd4 24.Bg3 d2 25.Re3 Qh6 -0.52/22 Black is more active.
[25...Bg5∓ -0.93/24 26.Qa3 Qxa3 27.Rxa3 Kg8]
26.Qxb7 -1.85/25
[26.Rd3∓ -0.44/21 Rb4 0.12/22 *(Black should play 26...Rxd3∓* -0.71/25 *27.Qxd3 Rd8)* 27.Qc2= Qxh5 28.R3xd2]
[White must play 26.Rd3∓ -0.52/22 Rxd3 27.Qxd3]

(Diagram)



Loses the game. **26...Bg5!↑** Black is really pushing. Keeping White busy.
[26...Qxh5 -1.41/20 26...Be7-g5 -1.83 27.Qf3 Qxf3 28.Rxf3∓]
[26...Qxh5 27.Qf3 Qh3 28.Bh2 Rg4+ 29.Bg3]
27.Rc3 Qxh5 28.Qf3 Qh3 Hoping for ...h7-h6. **29.Bh2 Rg4+ 30.Bg3 h6 31.Qg2** -2.56/24
[31.Qh1∓ -1.22/19 Qxh1+ 32.Kxh1]
31...Qh5 Hoping for ...Rg4xg3! **32.f3** -3.04/20
[⩲32.Qf3 -1.89/23]
32...Rd4 33.Qh2 Bh4 ...Qh5-g5! would now be deadly. **34.Kf1 Rfd8** Strongly threatening ...Qh5-g5! And now ...Qh5-g5! would win. **35.Bf2 Re4 36.f6** -3.84/19
[36.Qh3 -2.61/17 keeps fighting.]
36...gxf6 37.Qh3 Rf4
[37...fxe5? White must now prevent ...Re4-f4. 38.Be3-+]
[37...fxe5? 38.Be3-+]
38.Bxa7 Qxe5 39.Be3 Qb5+ 40.Kg1 Qe2 41.Qf1 Black is clearly winning.
41...Rg8+
[41...Qxf3? -0.06/21 41...Rd8-g8+ -9.65 42.Qxf3 *(42.Bxf4?* -7.98/18 42.Qf1xf3 -0.11 perishes. *Bf2+! 43.Qxf2 Rg8+ 44.Bg3 Rxg3+* Promotion *45.Qxg3 Qxd1+ 46.Kf2 Qe1+ 47.Kg2 Qe2+ 48.Qf2 d1Q-+)* 42...Rxf3 43.Rxd2 Rg8+ 44.Rg2∓]
[Inferior is 41...Qxf3 42.Qxf3 *(42.Bxf4?* is the wrong capture. *Bf2+ 43.Qxf2 Rg8+ 44.Bg3 Rxg3+* Promotion *45.Qxg3 Qxd1+ 46.Kh2 Qe2+ 47.Kh3 Qe6+ 48.Qg4 Qxg4+* Remove Defender *49.Kxg4 d1Q+-+)* 42...Rxf3 43.Rxd2 Rg8+ 44.Rg2=]
42.Kh1 Qxf1+ Remove Defender
[42...Qxf3+? -0.02/29 42...Qe2xf1+ -11.17 43.Qxf3 Rxf3 44.Bxd2∓]
[42...Qxf3+ 43.Qxf3 Rxf3 44.Bxd2∓]
43.Rxf1



Rxf3!! Decoy, Promotion.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/Black=0.10 (very precise) .
Weighted Error Value: White=0.55/Black=0.07 (flawless)
0-1

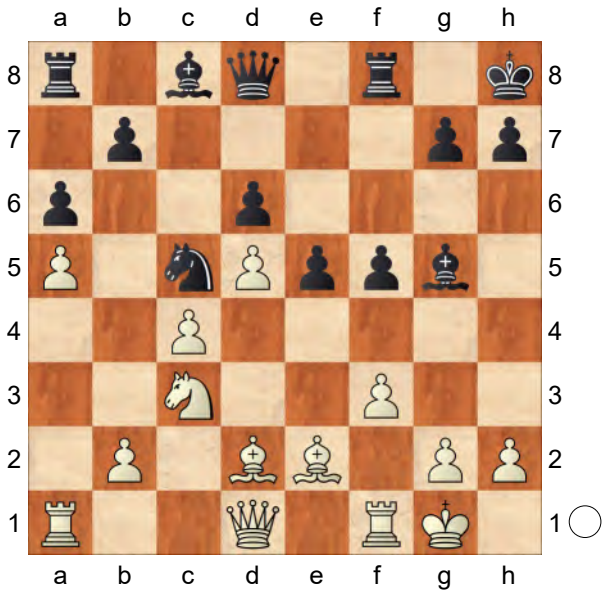
B33

□ **Sevian,Samuel** **2687**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
PRO League Prelim rapid (5.4)17.03.2023
[Kitty Kat]

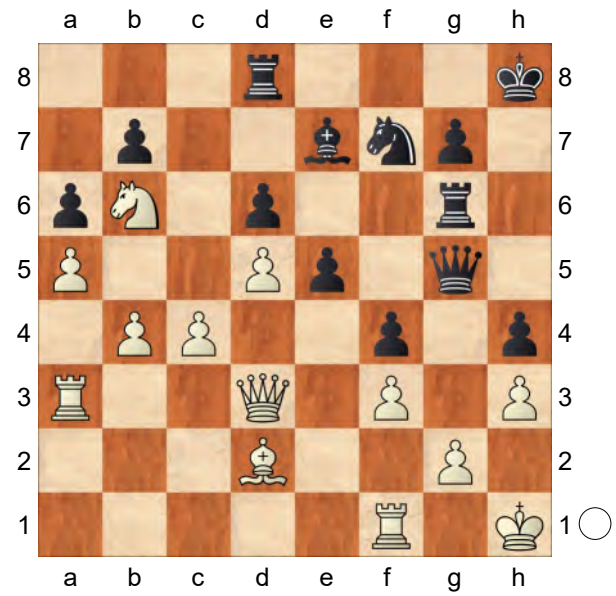
B33: Sicilian: Pelikan and Sveshnikov Variations
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.exd5 Nb8 9.a4 is now debated instead of 9.c4.wird nun anstelle von 9.c4 disktutiert. **9...Be7 10.Be2 0-0 11.0-0 f5 12.Bd2 Nd7 13.a5** White is slightly better. **13...Kh8N**
[13...a6 14.Na3 e4 15.Nc4 Ne5 16.Nb6 Rb8 17.f4 exf3 18.Bxf3 Quickstarter-2...Nc6 - Sveshnikov with 8.. g5 19.c4 f4 20.Bc3 Bf5 21.c5 Nxf3+ 22.Qxf3 dxc5 23.Rad1 8..Nb8 9.a4!? theory-N,N 2020]
[13...Nf6 14.Be3 Bd7 15.Nxa7 Janssen,H (2571)-Hodge,J (2582) Alushta 1999]
14.b4N 0.21/22
[Predecessor: 14.c4 Nc5 1.14/20 *(14...a6± 0.57/19)* 15.f3 0.76/23 *(⌓15.b4 1.14/20 Na6 16.Be3)* 15...a6 16.Nc3 Bg5

(Diagram)

17.Ra3 0.41/23 *(*Better is *17.Bxg5!± 1.06/21 Qxg5 18.Ra3)* 17...e4 1.77/23 *(17...Bxd2± 0.41/23 18.Qxd2 b6)* 18.b4+- Nd3 2.29/29 *(⌓18...exf3 1.61/20 19.Bxf3 Nd7)* 19.Bxd3 exd3 20.Bxg5 Qxg5 21.Qxd3 1-0 (62) Perez,M (2417)-Popadic,D (2157) Chess.com INT 2021]
[14.Bb4± 0.63/24]
14...a6= 15.Na3 Nf6 16.c4 f4 17.Nb1 -0.40/22



[17.f3= 0.08/21]
17...Qe8 -0.02/23
[17...Bf5∓ -0.40/22 is more appropriate.]
18.Nc3 -0.47/25
[18.Qc2!= -0.02/23 feels stronger.]
18...Qg6 19.Kh1! Bf5 20.Ra3 -0.63/23
[White should play 20.f3= -0.12/19]
20...h5 21.Na4 Qh7 -0.31/22
[⌓21...Rae8 -0.67/19]
22.Nb6∓ Rad8 23.Bc1 -0.75/22
[23.b5∓ -0.36/20 is superior.]
23...Kg8 24.Qb3 h4 Hoping for ...h4-h3! **25.h3! Kh8 26.Re1 Ne4 27.Rf1** -0.48/22
[27.Kg1!= 0.00/25]
27...Rf6
[27...Ng3+!? 28.fxg3 hxg3±]
28.Bd3 Ng5 ...e5-e4 is the strong threat.
[28...Qg6 looks sharper. 29.Qc2 Kg8 30.Qe2 Rf7]
29.f3 Nf7 0.95/22
[29...Re8= -0.17/22 keeps the balance.]
30.Bxf5± Qxf5 31.Qd3 Qg5 32.Bd2 Rg6 1.61/21
[32...Nh6± 1.04/22]



33.Rg1!+- Active counter play! **33...Nh6** 1.94/21
[33...Qh5± 1.26/19]
34.Be1 And now Be1xh4! would win.
34...Nf5 2.12/20
[⌓34...Qh5 1.76/19 35.Rc3 Nf5]
35.Bf2 Rh6
[35...Ng3+ 36.Bxg3 fxg3 *(36...hxg3? 37.Rc3+-)* 37.Qc2]
36.Kh2 0.79/19
[⌓36.Ra2 1.31/22]
36...Ng3± 37.Qc2 e4 1.26/21 **38.fxe4 Bf6** 2.53/21
[38...Re8± 1.49/21 39.Rf3 Bd8]
39.Rf3+-
[39.c5 dxc5 40.bxc5 Re8]
39...Be5 3.25/21
[⌓39...Qg6 2.29/23 40.Re1 *(40.Rxf4? Be5-+)* 40...Re8 41.Rxf4 Be5]
40.c5 dxc5 41.bxc5 Qg6 42.Nc4 2.18/19
[⌓42.d6 3.83/20]
42...Bb8? 3.75/19
[42...Rxd5 2.18/19 43.Qb1 Nxe4 *(43...Qxe4?* perishes. *44.Qxe4 Nxe4 45.Re1+-)*]
43.d6 Nxe4 4.94/22
[43...Qxe4 3.30/18 was worth a try. 44.Qb3 *(44.Qxe4 Nxe4 45.Rxf4 Nxd6+-)* 44...Re6]
44.Re1 Ng5 5.20/18
[⌓44...Nxf2 3.70/20 45.Qxg6 *(45.Rxf2 Qxc2 46.Rxc2 f3+-; 45.Qxf2 Qg3+ 46.Kh1 Qxf2+-)* 45...Rxg6 46.Rxf2 Rf6]
45.Qxg6 Nxf3+ 46.gxf3 Rxg6
47.Bxh4 Rf8 9.97/25
[47...Rdxd6 3.91/21 48.cxd6 *(48.Nxd6 Bxd6 49.cxd6 Rxd6+-)* 48...Bxd6]
48.d7 Black must now prevent Re1-e8. White is clearly winning. **48...Bc7 49.Re8 Kg8 50.Be7** Pin **50...Rgf6 51.Rc8** Pin.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.46
1-0

E20
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2768**
Tata Steel India Blitz (17) 04.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

E20: Nimzo-Indian: 4 g3 and 4 f3
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 c5 5.d5 0-0 6.e4 b5 7.e5
[7.cxb5 exd5 8.Nge2 dxe4]
7...Ne8 8.f4! exd5! The position is equal. **9.cxd5 d6 10.Nf3 c4 11.a4 Nd7**
[11...Bg4 12.axb5 Nd7 13.e6 fxe6 14.dxe6 Nb6 15.Be2 Nc7 16.Ng5 Bxe2 17.Qxe2 d5 18.0-0 Qf6 19.f5 Rae8 20.Rxa7 Nxe6 21.Nxe6 Rxe6 22.Qf2 Nimzo Indian-8.f4 ed5 9.cd5 d6 Survey 2021]
12.axb5N

[12.Be2 Qb6 13.Bd2 *(13.axb5 Nc7 14.Qd4 Bb7 15.Bd2 Bxc3 16.bxc3 dxe5 17.fxe5 Bxd5 18.Be3 Qxb5 19.0-0 Ne6 20.Qh4 Ndc5 21.Rab1 Nb3 22.Bd1 Qa5 23.Bc2 g6 24.Ng5 Nxg5 25.Bxg5 Qxc3 26.Rf2 Nd4 27.Bh6 Nc6* Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2757)-10. ♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5 7469 (2766) Stockholm ½-½ *)* 13...Nc7 14.Nxb5 Bxd2+ 15.Qxd2 Nxb5 16.axb5 Re8 17.Qd4 dxe5 18.fxe5 Bb7 19.e6 fxe6 20.Qxb6 Nxb6 Nimzo 4. f3 2021]

12...dxe5! 13.Bxc4

[13.fxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Qh4+ 15.Ke2 *(15.g3 Qe4+ 16.Qe2 Qxh1∓)* 15...Nf6∓ *(15...Bxc3 16.bxc3 Qe4+ 17.Kf2=)*]

13...Nd6 14.Be2 exf4 0.45/19

[14...e4= -0.01/19 deserves consideration. 15.Nd4 Qh4+ 16.g3 Qh3]

15.0-0!± Bb7 1.39/20

[15...Bc5+± 0.36/20 16.Nd4 Nf5 17.Rxf4 Nxd4 *(17...Bxd4+ 18.Rxd4 Qb6* Pin *19.Raa4=)* 18.Rxd4 Re8]

16.Bxf4± Nf6 1.41/20

[⌓16...Qb6+ 0.97/19 17.Kh1 a5]

17.Bd3 0.04/20

[17.Qd4± 1.41/20 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Nxd5 19.Bxd6 *(19.Rxa7? Nxf4 20.Bd1 Rxa7-+)* 19...Qxd6 20.Ne5 *(20.Rxa7 Rxa7 21.Qxa7 Nxc3=)*]

17...Bxc3 0.68/20

[17...Re8= 0.04/20]

18.bxc3± Nxd5 19.Bd2 Rc8 20.Qc2 h6 21.c4 -0.82/22

[21.Rxa7? Qb6+ 22.Kh1 Qxa7-+]

[21.Kh1= -0.01/20 remains equal.]

21...Qb6+ 0.01/23

[21...Nxc4!∓ -0.82/22 22.Bxc4 Nb6 23.Bxf7+ Rxf7]

22.Kh1= Qc2-b3 would now be deadly.

22...Ne3 23.Bxe3 Qxe3 24.Rae1 Qc5 25.Ne5 Rfe8 26.Qb2 -0.89/23

[26.Nd7= -0.01/26 Qc7 27.Ne5]

26...Rc7 27.Ng4 Rce7

[27...Nxc4 28.Rxe8+]

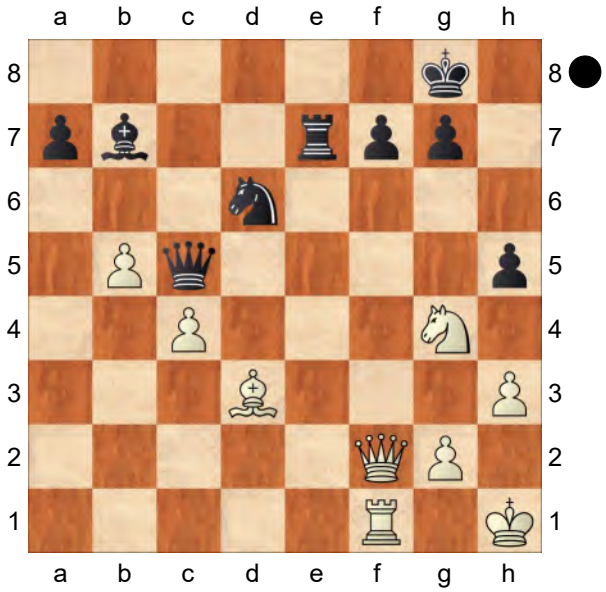
28.Rxe7 Rxe7 29.h3? -2.83/22

[29.Qf2!= -0.01/22 and White stays safe. Qxf2 30.Nxf2]

29...h5-+

[29...Nxc4 30.Qc2 Bd5 31.Rc1∓]

30.Qf2



Qg5

[30...Qa3 31.Qg3 Kf8 *(31...hxg4? 32.Bh7+* Discovered Attack *Kxh7 33.Qxa3+-)* 32.Nf2= *(32.Ne5 Be4∓* Remove Defender *)*]

31.Nh2 Re3 32.h4 Qe5 33.Rd1 -6.65/23

[33.c5 -3.44/21 Qxc5 34.Bc2]

33...Ne4? -0.28/24

[33...Rg3-+ -6.65/23 34.Bf1 Rh3 Discovered Attack]

34.Bxe4= Qxe4 0.29/25

[34...Bxe4∓ -0.42/24 35.Nf1 Rc3]

35.Nf3⟶ Black needs to defend precisely.

[35.Rd7!? Re1+ 36.Nf1 Qxg2+ 37.Qxg2 Rxf1+ 38.Kh2 Bxg2

39.Kxg2±]

35...f6 1.00/22
[35...Rxf3= -0.01/24 36.Rd8+ Kh7 37.gxf3 *(37.Qxf3 Qxh4+ 38.Kg1 Bxf3 39.Rd3 Qe1+ 40.Kh2 Bxg2* Decoy *41.Kxg2 Qe2+ 42.Kg3 Qxd3+ 43.Kf2 h4 44.Ke1 Qc2 45.b6 axb6 46.Kf1 h3 47.Ke1 h2 48.Kf1 h1Q#)* 37...Qxc4]

36.Qg3 -0.01/24
[36.c5± 1.00/22 Threatens to win with c5-c6. Re2 37.Qf1]

36...Qe7 And now ...Re3-c3 would win.
[36...Qxc4? too greedy. 37.Qb8+ Bc8 38.Rd8+ *(38.Qxa7 Rxf3 39.Rd8+ Kh7∓)* 38...Kh7 39.Rxc8+- *(39.Qxc8 Qe4+-)*]

37.Rf1 -0.77/23
[37.Qd6= 0.01/24 keeps the balance.]

37...Re4 -0.12/23
[37...Rc3∓ -0.77/23 38.Qf4 Qe4 39.Qxe4 Bxe4]

38.c5 -1.28/22 **Bd5?** 0.28/23
[Black should try 38...Qxc5∓ -1.28/22 39.Qb8+ Bc8]

39.c6 -0.83/23
[39.Rc1= 0.28/23]

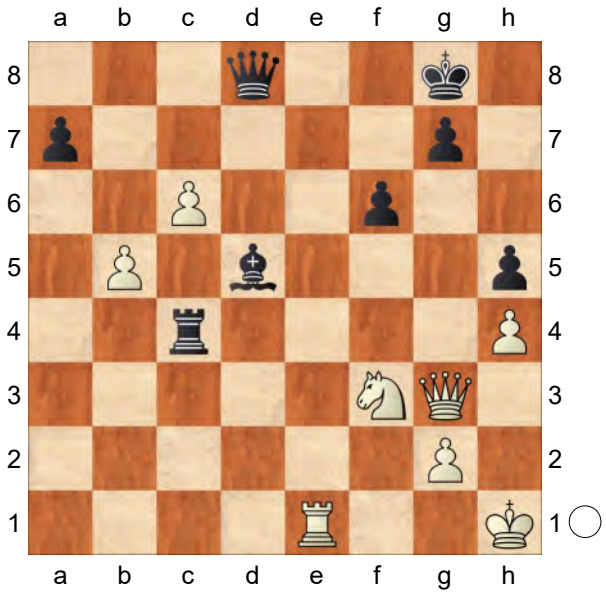
39...Rc4? 0.76/25
[39...Qc5∓ -0.83/23 and life is bright. 40.Rd1 Kh7 *(40...Qxb5 41.Rxd5 Qxd5 42.Qb8+ Kh7 43.c7=)*]

40.Re1 0.01/23
[Better is 40.Rd1± 0.76/25 Bxf3 41.Qxf3]

40...Qd8 2.62/23
[40...Qb4= 0.01/23]

(Diagram)

41.Rd1!+- Rc5 42.Qf2? 0.92/21
[42.Qg6+- 2.93/22]



42...Rxb5? 2.44/24
[42...Qe7± 0.92/21]

43.Nd4? -0.01/23
[White must play 43.Qxa7+- 2.44/24 Qa5 44.Qxa5 Rxa5 45.c7]

43...Bxc6 Strongly threatening ...Rb5-b4. **44.Rc1 Be8** 0.37/23
[44...Bxg2+!= 0.01/24 45.Kxg2 Qd5+ 46.Kg3 Rb8]

45.Nxb5± Bxb5 46.Qxa7 0.35/23
[46.Qf5!± 0.75/27 Be8 47.Qe4]

46...Be2 10.11/27
[46...Kh7± 0.35/23]

47.Qa2+ Never resign too early!
Weighted Error Value: White=0.58/ Black=0.54
1-0

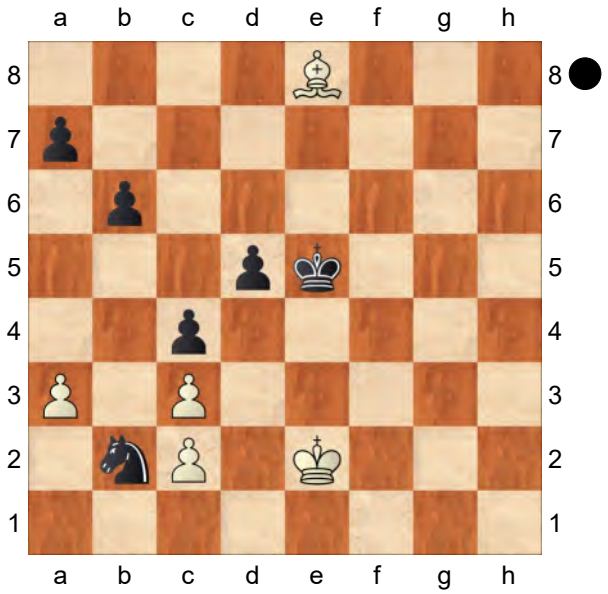
C42
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2766**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.17)
[Kitty Kat]

C42: Petroff Defence: 3 Nxe5 and unusual White 3rd moves
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3

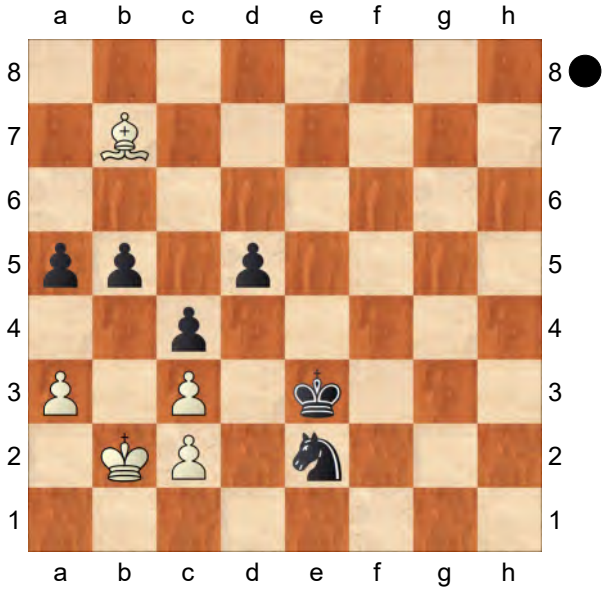
Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Be7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nd7 9.0-0-0 Nf6 10.h3N
[10.Bd3 c5 *(10...Re8 11.Rhe1 Bg4 12.Bg5 Qd7 13.Kb1 Bf5 14.Nd4 Bxd3 15.cxd3 c5 16.Nc2 h6 17.Bh4 Nd5 18.Bxe7 Rxe7 19.c4 Rxe1 20.Rxe1 Nf6 21.d4 Re8 22.Rxe8+ Qxe8 23.f3 b6 24.Ne3 Qe6 25.Kc2* Vokhidov,S (2643)-Yu,Y (2703) FIDE World Rapid Team 2024 (10.15) ½-½ *)* 11.Bg5 *(11.Kb1 b5 12.Rhe1 Rb8 13.Bg5 c4 14.Nd4 Bd7 15.Nf5 Bxf5 16.Bxf5 Ne4 17.Bxe4 Bxg5 18.Qxd6 Qxd6 19.Rxd6* Vidit,S (2711)-Gelfand,B (2655) 140/(116) Praha 2019*; 11.Rhe1 Be6 12.Bg5 d5 13.Qf4 Re8 14.Re5 Qc7 15.Qh4 h6 16.Bxh6 Ne4 17.Qf4 Nxf2* Quickstarter-Petroff Modern Main Line With*)* 11...Be6 12.Qf4 h6 13.Bxh6 gxh6 14.Qxh6 Re8 15.Ng5 Bf8 16.Bh7+ Kh8 17.Qh4 Ng4 18.Bf5+ Bh6 19.f4 Qf6 20.Bxe6 Qxf4+ 21.Kb1 fxe6 22.Nh3 Qf5 23.Rdf1 Qg6 24.Rf4 Ne3 Petroff Modern Main Line-Petroff Modern Main Line: 5 N]
10...c5 11.Bf4 Be6 Prevents Bf1-c4.
12.a3
[Don't play 12.Bxd6 Bxd6 13.Qxd6 Qa5-+]
12...d5 13.Ng5 Bd7
[13...h6!? 14.Nxe6 fxe6∓]
14.g4 Bc6 15.Bg2 Re8 16.Qd3 -1.32/22
[16.c4∓ -0.42/19 dxc4 17.Bxc6 bxc6 18.Qxd8 Raxd8 19.Rxd8 Bxd8 20.Nf3]
16...Bd6 -0.52/19
[16...h6∓ -1.32/22 17.h4 Qc8 *(17...hxg5? loses. 18.hxg5 Bd6 19.Bxd6+-)*]
17.Qg3!∓ Bxf4+ 18.Qxf4 h6 19.Nf3 Qb8
[19...g5 looks sharper. 20.Nxg5 hxg5 21.Qxg5+ Kh8]
20.Qxb8 Raxb8 21.Nd2 Re2 22.Rhf1 b6 23.Rde1 Rbe8 24.Rxe2 Rxe2 25.Kd1 Re6 26.f4 Kf8 27.Re1 Ke7 28.Rxe6+ Kxe6= Endgame. KBN-KBN **29.Ke2 g5 30.fxg5 hxg5 31.Nf3 Ne4 32.Ke3 f6 33.Bf1! Nd6 34.Nd2** -0.95/22
[34.h4= -0.17/26]
34...f5!∓ 35.gxf5+ Nxf5+ 36.Kf2 -1.15/21
[⌓36.Kf3 -0.78/23]
36...Ke5 37.Nf3+ -1.95/22
[37.Bg2∓ -1.22/24]
37...Kf4-+ 38.Ne1 -2.18/21
[38.Ng1 -1.65/22 is a better defense.]
38...c4? -0.19/23
[Black should play 38...Ne3!-+ -2.18/21 39.Nd3+ Ke4]
39.Ng2+!= Ke5 40.Be2! Ba4 41.Bd1 Be8 42.Bg4 Bg6 43.Be2 Nd6 44.Ne3 -1.08/24
[44.h4!= -0.22/24 keeps the balance.]
44...Ne4+ -0.61/26
[44...b5∓ -1.08/24]
45.Kf3∓ Nf6 46.Kf2 -1.78/25
[46.Ng4+∓ -0.65/26 Ke6 47.b3]
46...Bf7-+ 47.Ng2 Be6 48.h4 Ne4+ 49.Kf3 Bh3 Threatens to win with ... Bh3xg2+. **50.hxg5 Nxg5+ 51.Kg3 Bxg2 52.Kxg2∓** KB-KN **52...Ne6! 53.Kf2 Nc5** Hoping for ...Nc5-a4. **54.Bh5 Na4 55.Be8 Nxb2 56.Ke2**

(Diagram)

Dodges Nb2-d1 **56...a6! 57.Kd2 b5 58.Bh5 Na4 59.Bf7 Nc5** ...Nc5-e4+ is the strong threat. **60.Kc1 Ne6 61.Kb2**



Nf4 62.Be8 Ke4 63.Bc6 Ke3
White must now prevent ...Ke3-d2.
64.Bb7? -7.85/28
[64.Kc1 -1.76/24]
64...a5 65.Kc1 Ne2+ 66.Kb2



Kd2? -0.19/21
[Better is 66...Nf4!-+ -5.05/29 Strongly threatening ...Ke3-d2. 67.Kc1 Ke2]
67.Bxd5= The position is equal.
67...Nxc3 68.Bc6 Nd1+ 69.Kb1! Ne3 70.Be4! c3 ...Ne3-c4 would now be deadly. **71.Bh7 Nc4 72.Ka2 Ne5 73.Be4 Ke3 74.Bh7 Nc6 75.Bg6 Kd2 76.Be4 Nd4 77.Kb1! Kd1 78.Bd5 Nf5 79.Be4 Ne3 80.Bg6 Kd2**
[80...Nc4!? 81.Ka2□ Kc1∓]
81.Bd3 Nc4 82.Ka2! Nb6 83.Kb1 Nc4 84.Ka2! a4 85.Bg6 Kc1 aiming for ... Nc4-e5. **86.Bd3 Nd6 87.Ka1 Nb7**
[87...Nc4!? 88.Ka2□ Kd2∓]
88.Ka2 Nc5 89.Bf5 Na6 90.Bg6 Kd2 91.Bh7 Nb8 92.Bd3 Nc6 93.Bxb5 Nd4 94.Bxa4 Nxc2 95.Kb3 Nd4+ 96.Kc4 Nc2 97.Kb3 Ne3 (-> ...c3-c2) **98.Kb4 c2** Black had all chances to win. Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
½-½

D00

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2766**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.23)
[Kitty Kat]

D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5N
[2...c5 3.d5 d6 4.e4 g6 5.Nf3 *(5.f4 Bg7 6.Bb5+ Nfd7 7.a4 Na6 8.Nf3 Nc7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 e6 11.dxe6 fxe6 12.f5 Ne5 13.fxg6 hxg6 14.Be3 Bd7 15.Nxe5 Rxf1+ 16.Bxf1 Bxe5 17.Qg4 Qf6 18.Bc4 Rf8 19.Rd1 Rf7* Leisebein,P (1200)-Grott,P (1200) SE014 www.desc-online.de 2000 ½-½ *)* 5...Bg7 6.Be2 *(6.Bc4 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Bf4 Ne8 9.Re1 Nb6 10.Bf1 e5 11.dxe6 Bxe6 12.a4 Nd7 13.Nb5 Bg4 14.Nxd6 Be5 15.Bxe5 Bxf3 16.Qd5 Nc7 17.Nf5 gxf5 18.Bxc7 Qxc7 19.Qxf5 Bxg2 20.Bxg2 Rae8* Atalik,S (2561)-Epishin,V (2605) CCA-ICC op Lake George 2005 (9) ½-½ *21.Ra3 Ne5 22.Rg3+*

Ng6 23.e5 Qd8 24.Qh5 Qd2 25.Rh3 h6 26.Ree3 Re6 27.Qxh6 Rd8 28.Bf1 Qc1 29.Qh7+ Kf8 30.Rhf3 Rd7 31.Rd3 Nxe5 32.Rxf7+ Nxf7 33.Rxd7 Qg5+ 34.Kh1 Rf6 35.Bc4 Qc1+ Zhang,P (2562)-Ni,H (2390) Perenyi Memorial 2000 (7) 1-0 *)* 6...Na6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bf4 Nc7 9.a4 Bg4 10.Qd2 a6 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Nd7 13.Be2 Rb8 14.Bh6 b5 15.axb5 axb5 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.b4 Chapter 5 - Egoism-Speelman vs. Hartston]

3.Bf4 e6 4.Nb5 Na6 5.e3 Be7 6.h4 0-0 7.Nf3 c5!? A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.

8.a4 The position is equal.

[8.c3 Bd7 9.a4 Ne4 0.67/18 *(*Better is *9...Bxb5=* 0.02/19 *10.axb5 Nb8)* 10.h5 0.13/19 *(10.Bd3±* 0.67/18 *)* 10...h6 11.Ne5 -0.01/21 *(11.Bd3±* 0.42/19 *)* 11...Nb8 0.37/21 *(11...cxd4=* -0.01/21 is more appropriate. *12.exd4 Nb8)* 12.Bd3!± Bd3xe4 would now be deadly. a6 13.Na3 Nc6 0.40/21 *(13...Ng5=* -0.01/19 *)* 14.Bxe4 -0.05/22 dxe4 0.49/22 *(14...Nxe5=* -0.05/22 *15.Bc2 Nc6)* 15.Nxd7± Qxd7 16.dxc5 0-1 (59) Erigaisi,A (2718)-Caruana,F (2766) Chess.com INT 2022 0-1 (59) Erigaisi,A (2718)-Caruana,F (2766) Chess.com INT 2022 *(16.Nc4)*]

8...Bd7 9.Ne5N

[Vorgänger: 9.c3 c4 10.b3 Qa5 11.bxc4 Black must now prevent Nf3-d2. Bxb5! 12.axb5 Qxc3+ 13.Nd2 Nb4 14.Rc1 Against Nb4-c2+ Nd3+ 15.Bxd3 Qxd3 16.Qe2 dxc4 17.Rxc4 Qa3 18.0-0 Rfc8 19.e4 -0.46/21 *(19.Bg5=* 0.01/21 *)* 19...a5 ½-½ (19) Najer,E (2676)-Sjugirov,S (2703) Cheboksary 2022 ½-½ (19) Najer,E (2676)-Sjugirov,S (2703) Cheboksary 2022]

9...Nb4 10.g4 -0.54/19

[10.c3= -0.17/19]

10...a6∓ 11.Nc3 -0.97/20

[11.g5∓ -0.59/21 Nh5 12.Qxh5 axb5 *(12...Nxc2+ 13.Kd1±*) 13.Rb1]

11...cxd4∓ 12.exd4 Rc8 13.f3 Prevents Nf6-e4 **13...Be8 14.Bd3** -1.63/22

[14.Nd3∓ -0.97/18]

14...Nd7-+ 15.g5 -2.58/22

[15.Nxd7∓ -1.58/20 Bxd7 *(15...Bxh4+ 16.Ke2=)* 16.Qd2]

15...Nxe5 -1.49/23

[Black should play 15...f6-+ -2.58/22 16.Nxd7 Qxd7 *(16...Bxd7? 17.Qe2∓)*]

16.Bxe5 -2.67/22

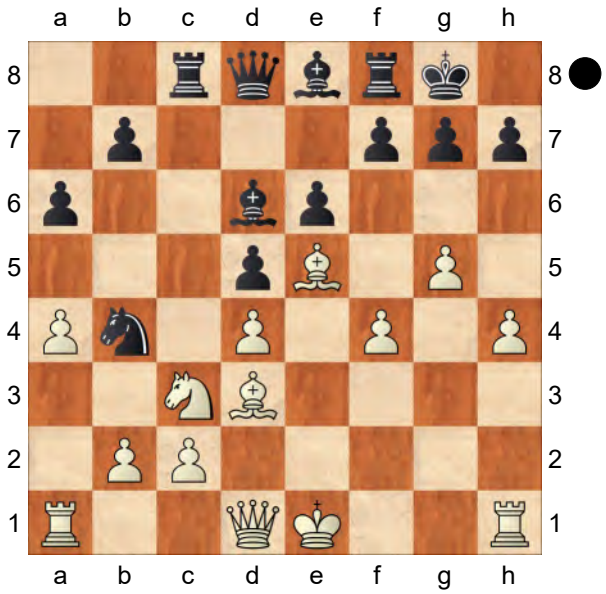
[16.dxe5∓ -1.49/23 Qb6 17.Ne2]

16...Bd6 -1.33/21

[16...f6-+ -2.67/22 17.gxf6 Bxf6]

17.f4 -2.00/22

[17.Qe2∓ -1.33/21 might work better.]



17...Bxe5 -0.76/22

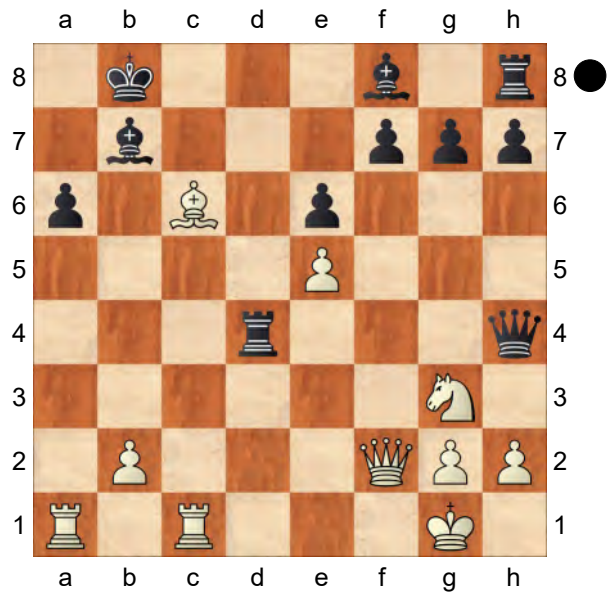
[17...f6!-+ -2.00/22 18.gxf6 Rxf6 *(18...gxf6 19.Rg1+ Kh8 20.Bxd6∓)* 19.Bxf6 Qxf6]
18.fxe5∓ Qb6 19.Rb1? -4.61/22
White does not recover from this.
[White has to play 19.Ne2!∓ -0.69/24]
19...Qxd4-+ 20.Qe2 Nc6 21.h5 Qxe5 22.g6 -5.89/20
[⌓22.h6 -3.72/21 f5 *(22...Qxg5 23.hxg7 Kxg7 24.Rxh7+ Kf6 25.Qf2+ Ke5 26.Ne4=)* 23.gxf6 gxf6 *(23...Rxf6? 24.hxg7 Bg6 25.Kd1-+)* 24.Kd1]
22...fxg6 Black is clearly winning.
23.hxg6 Bxg6 24.Bxg6 hxg6 25.Qxe5 Nxe5 26.Ke2 d4
Weighted Error Value: White=0.76/ Black=0.38
0-1

C11
☐ **Caruana,Fabiano 2766**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2718**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.35)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.e4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.e5 Ne4 5.Nxe4 dxe4 6.Bc4 a6 7.Ne2 0.10/22
White is more active.
[7.a4± 0.91/19]
7...b5 0.72/20
[7...c5= 0.10/22 keeps the balance.]
8.Bb3± c5 9.c3 White is slightly better.
9...Bb7 10.0-0 Nc6 11.Be3 Qh4 12.Ng3N 0.35/20
[12.dxc5 Nxe5 13.c6 Nxc6∓]
[12.a4± 0.71/18 Hoping for a4xb5. Rd8 13.axb5 axb5 14.Qb1 *(14.Qc1 Be7 15.Bc2 0-0 16.Qb1 cxd4 17.cxd4 Nb4 18.Ra7 Rd7 19.Nc3 Rc8 20.Bxe4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Rxa7 22.d5 Qxe4 23.Nxe4 Ra2 24.d6 Bd8 25.Bg5 Bxg5 26.Nxg5 Rca8 27.f4 Ra1* 3.♕c2 ♘f6 4.♘f3 27362 (2483)-Schneider,A (2421) Santiago m Santiago de Chile 1997 (8) 0-1 *)*]
12...0-0-0 1.75/21
[12...Rd8!± 0.35/20]
13.Qe2+- Strongly threatening a2-a4.
13...cxd4 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Rxd4 16.a4? -0.83/22
[16.Qe3!± 1.53/23 Rd7 *(16...Bc5? 17.Rac1+-)* 17.Bc2]
16...bxa4? 1.53/23
[16...Bb4∓ -0.83/22 keeps the pressure on. ...Kc8-b8 is the strong threat. 17.axb5 a5]
17.Bxa4± Ba4-c6! would now be deadly.
[17.Rfc1+ Kb8 18.Bxa4 e3±]
17...e3 2.64/24
[17...Qd8± 1.52/23]
18.Rfc1+? 0.34/20
[White should play 18.Bc6+- 2.64/24 exf2+ *(18...Bxc6? 19.Qxa6+ Kd7 20.Rac1+-)* 19.Rxf2]
18...Kb8± 19.Bc6 The board is on fire.
19...exf2+ 20.Qxf2? -2.61/23
[20.Kf1± 0.41/23 stays ahead. Qe7 *(20...Qxh2 21.Qxf2 Bxc6 22.Rxc6±)* 21.Bf3 *(21.Kxf2? Qb4-+; 21.Bxb7 Qxb7 22.Rxa6 Be7=)*]

(Diagram)

20...Qf4? -0.01/24
[20...Rc4!-+ -2.61/23 21.b3 *(21.Bxb7? Bc5-+)* 21...Bc5 Pin *(21...Rxc6 22.Rxc6 Bxc6 23.Rxa6=)* 22.Rxc4 Bxf2+ 23.Kxf2 Qe7 *(23...Qxh2? 24.Bxb7 Kxb7 25.Rh1+-)* 24.Bxb7 Qxb7]
21.Qc2 -1.02/24 Dodges Bf8-c5



[21.Bf3!= -0.01/24 Rd7 *(21...Qxe5 22.Bxb7± Discovered Attack)* 22.Kh1]

21...Rd2∓

[21...Qxe5 22.Bxb7±]

22.Qb3 -1.80/25

[22.Qe4∓ -0.98/24 Qxe4 23.Nxe4]

22...Qb4-+ 23.Qf3 Bc5+

[23...Rxb2 24.Bxb7 Qxb7 25.Ne4∓]

24.Kh1 Threatens to win with Bc6xb7.

24...Rf2

[24...Qxb2? 25.Rab1 *(25.Qxf7 Bxc6 26.Qf1 Bxg2+; 25.Bxb7 Qxb7 26.Rxc5 Qxf3+-)* 25...Bxc6 26.Qxc6+- *(26.Rxb2+ Rxb2 27.Qxc6 Be3+-)*]

25.Bxb7 -2.74/23

[⌓25.Qe4 -1.98/24 Rf4 *(25...Qxb2? 26.Rcb1+-)* 26.Qxb4 Bxb4 27.Bxb7 Kxb7 28.Rf1 Rxf1+ 29.Rxf1]

25...Rxf3 26.Bxf3 Bd4?? 3.59/24

[26...Qxb2 27.Rcb1±]

[26...a5-+ -2.73/22 And now ...Bc5-d4! would win. 27.Rd1 Bd4 *(27...Qxb2? 28.Rab1+-* Pin *)*]

27.Rxa6+- Ba7 Black is weak on the light squares

[27...Qxb2 28.Ra8#]

28.Rca1 Qd4 29.Rxa7 Qxa7 30.Rxa7 Kxa7 31.Ne4 Rb8 32.h4 1.45/24

[32.Ng5+- 1.87/25]

32...Rxb2 1.83/24

[32...Rb5± 1.45/24 33.Ng5 Rxe5]

33.Nd6 0.47/25

[33.Ng5+- 1.83/24]

33...f5 0.88/25

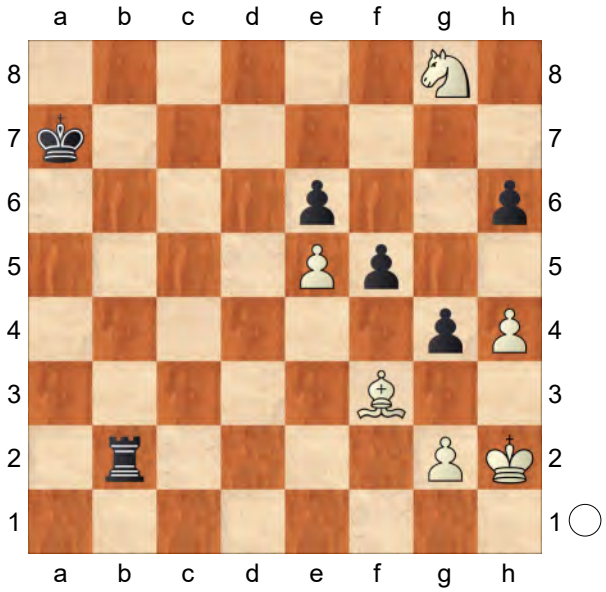
[33...f6± 0.47/25 deserves consideration.]

34.Ne8 g6 35.Nf6 h6 36.Ng8 0.24/24

[36.h5± 1.00/25 Rb1+ 37.Kh2 gxh5 38.Kg3 *(38.Bxh5 Rb5±; 38.Nxh5 Rb5=)*]

36...g5 37.Kh2 aiming for h4-h5. **37...g4** 1.04/27

[37...gxh4± 0.47/27 38.Kh3 *(38.Nxh6 Kb6=)* 38...Kb6]



38.Bc6 0.00/27

[38.Bxg4!± 1.04/27 fxg4 39.Nxh6]

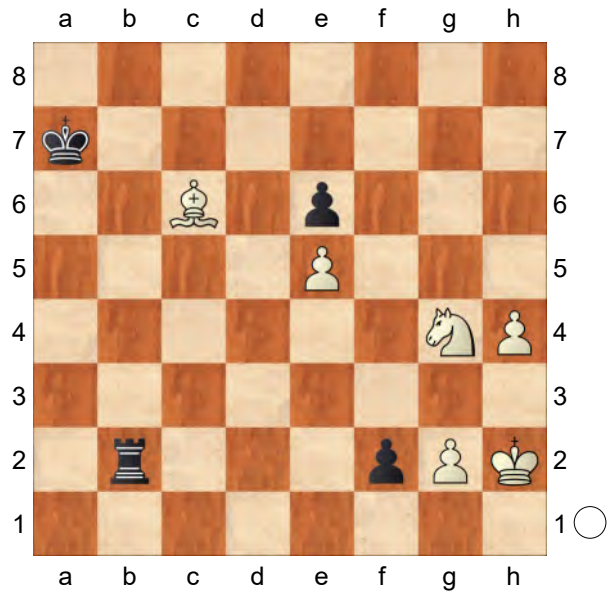
38...f4? 3.99/28

[38...Kb6= 0.00/27 and Black stays safe. 39.Bd7 f4 *(39...Re2? 40.Bxe6 Rxe5 41.Bf7+-)* 40.Bxe6 f3 41.Nxh6 *(41.Bxg4 f2 42.Kh3 f1Q 43.Bf3 Rb4 44.Bg4 Rb3+)* 41...Rxg2+ 42.Kh1 g3]

39.Nxh6 f3? 5.78/30

[39...Kb6 2.76/26 is more resistant. 40.Ba8 Ra2]

40.Nxg4 f2



41.Nxf2 Rxf2 Endgame. KR-KB **42.Bf3 Kb6 43.h5 Kc5 44.h6 Rb2 45.Kg3 Kd4 46.Kf4 Rb8 47.Kg5 Kxe5 48.h7** Wards off Rb8-g8+ **48...Kd4 49.Kf6 e5 50.Kg7?** 0.01/26

[50.Bh5+- 9.20/23]

50...e4= 51.Bh5

[51.Bd1!? Rb7+□ 52.Kh6 Rb6+ 53.Kh5 Rb5+ 54.Kg4=]

51...Rb7+ 52.Bf7

[52.Kg6!? Rb6+□ 53.Kg7 Rb7+ 54.Kh6 *(54.Bf7 Rb8±)* 54...Rb6+ 55.Kg7 Rb7+±]

52...Rb2? 13.22/25

[52...Rb8= 0.01/23]

53.h8Q+- Intending Kg7-f8+ and mate.

[Inferior is 53.h8R Rxg2+ 54.Bg6 e3=]

53...Rxg2+ 54.Kf8+

Weighted Error Value: White=0.78/ Black=1.12

1-0

C18

□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2766**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**

Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.17)

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 Kf8 9.Qd1 b6 10.h4! is recently more successful than 10.dxc5. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 10.dxc5.

10...Ba6 11.Bxa6 White has an edge.

[11.h5 Bxf1 12.Kxf1 h6 13.Rh4 Nc6 14.Rf4 Nge7 15.Ne2 c4 16.g4 Ke8 17.Ng3 Rf8 18.Rf3 Kd7 19.g5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 Ng8 21.Qd2 Rae8 22.Kg2 Kc8 23.Qc1 Nb8 24.Qb2 Nd7 25.Qb4 Qxb4 Piorun,K (2665)-Harikrishna,P (2762) Bundesliga 1617 2016 (1.1) ½-½]

11...Qxa6 12.h5 h6 13.Qg4N

[Vorgänger: 13.Nf3 Ne7 14.a4 Nbc6 15.Qe2 Qxe2+ 16.Kxe2 cxd4 17.cxd4 Kg8 18.g4 Kh7 19.g5 0-1 (40) Ostrovskiy,A (2448)-Le,T (2485) Chess.com INT 2017]

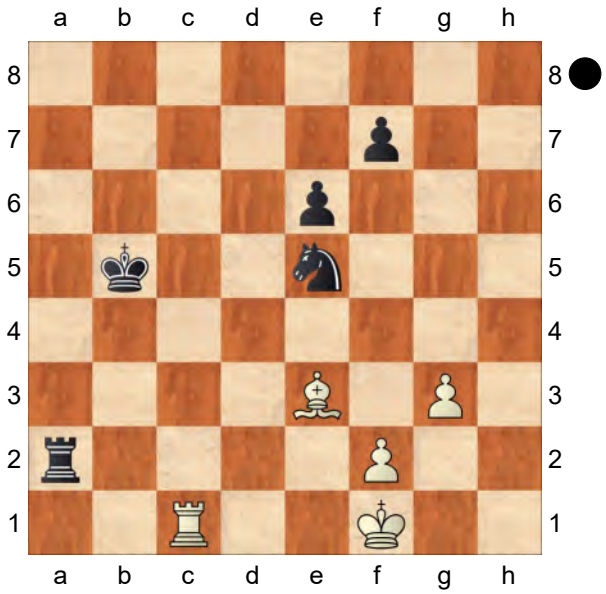
[13.Rh4 Ne7 14.Rf4 Nbc6 15.a4 Rc8 16.a5 cxd4 17.cxd4 Qc4 18.axb6 axb6 19.c3 Ke8 20.Ra4 Qb5 21.Ne2 Na5 22.Bc1 Nc4 23.Ra7 Rf8 24.Qc2 Nc6 25.Ra1 Ke7 26.Qh7 Rg8 27.Rg4 Ra8 Castellanos Rodriguez,R (2479)-Vilela De Acuna,J (2355) Balaguer op 11th 2006 (8) 1-0]

[13.Rh3 Ne7 14.Qg4 Nbc6 15.Ne2 Kg8 16.Rf3 Rf8 17.Qf4 Qa4 18.Rc1 Qxa3 19.g4 Na5 20.g5 Nc4 21.Ng3 Nxd2 22.Kxd2 hxg5 23.Qxg5 cxd4 24.Rg1 dxc3+ 25.Rxc3 Qb4 26.Ne4 g6 27.Nf6+ Kg7 Neumann,J (2638)-

Modern IBd7 (2387) Staunton Memorial 7th 2009 (6) 0-1]

13...Qa4 14.Ne2 -0.39/20
[14.Rh3= -0.01/20]
14...Nc6 White must now prevent ... Nc6xe5. **15.Qf4 Qxc2 16.dxc5** -0.53/23
[16.Rc1!= -0.01/21 Qh7 17.dxc5]
16...Qe4 -0.12/22
[16...bxc5∓ -0.53/23 deserves consideration. 17.Be3 c4]
17.Qxe4= dxe4 18.cxb6 axb6 19.Rh4 -0.86/22
[19.Bf4= -0.27/20]
19...Nxe5∓ 20.Rxe4 Nd3+ 21.Kf1 Nf6 22.Rh4 Ke7 23.a4 -0.95/21
[23.Nd4= -0.25/21 keeps the balance.]
23...Rhc8 24.Rb1 -1.29/22
[White should play 24.c4 -0.85/21]
24...Nd5 -0.46/22
[24...Ra6∓ -1.29/22 25.g3 Nc5]
25.c4∓ Nf6 Excellent horsemanship.
[Much weaker is 25...Rxa4 26.Rd4 N5b4 *(26...Raxc4? too greedy. 27.Rxd3 Kf8 28.g3+-)* 27.Nc3=]
26.Nc3 Ne5 -0.01/23
[26...Rc6∓ -0.70/21]
27.Rxb6= Nxc4 28.Rb7+ Kf8 29.Be1 Ne5 30.Ke2 Rc6 31.Rhb4 Nxh5? 1.97/23
[31...Rcc8= -0.01/23 and Black has nothing to worry.]
32.g3? -0.11/22
[32.R7b5+- 1.97/23]
32...Nf6 33.Rb8+ Rxb8 34.Rxb8+ Ke7 35.a5 Ra6 36.Rb7+ Kd6 Hoping for ... Kd6-c6! **37.Na4 Kc6 38.Rb1 Nd5 39.Rc1+ Kb5 40.Nc3+ Nxc3+ 41.Bxc3** Endgame. KRB-KRN **41...Nc4 42.Bxg7 Rxa5 43.Bxh6 Ra2+ 44.Kf1 Ne5 45.Be3**

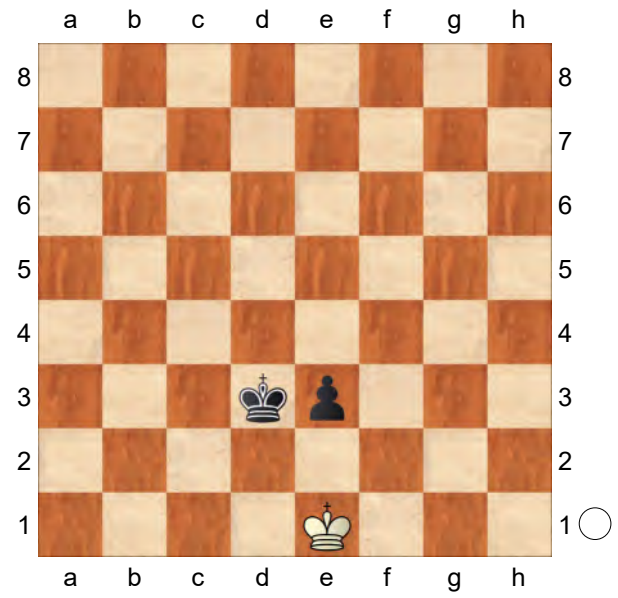
(Diagram)



And now Rc1-c5+ would win. **45...Ng4 46.Re1 Kc4 47.Kg2 f5 48.Bb6 e5 49.Kf3 Rb2 50.Ba7 Rd2 51.Kg2 Ra2 52.Bb6 e4 53.Be3** The position is equal. **53...Ne5 54.Rc1+ Kd5 55.Rc5+ Ke6 56.Rb5 Ng4 57.Rb3 Re2 58.Kf1 Ra2 59.Rb6+ Kd5 60.Rb3 Kc4 61.Rb8 Nxe3+ 62.fxe3** KR-KR **62...Rh2 63.Rf8 Kd3 64.Rxf5 Kxe3 65.g4 Rh4 66.g5 Rg4 67.Ra5 Kf3 68.Rf5+ Ke3 69.Ra5 Rf4+ 70.Kg2 Ke2 71.Kg3 Rf1 72.Ra2+ Kd3 73.Ra3+ Kd4 74.Ra4+ Ke5 75.Ra5+ Ke6 76.Kg2 Rf5 77.Rxf5 Kxf5 78.Kf2 Kxg5** KP-K **79.Ke3 Kf5 80.Ke2 Kf4 81.Kf2 e3+ 82.Ke2 Ke4 83.Ke1 Kd3**
[83...Kd4!?]

(Diagram)

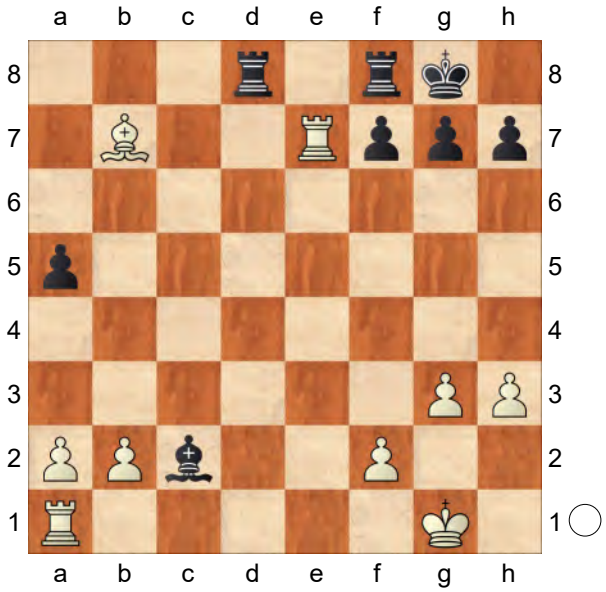
(-> ...e3-e2) **84.Kd1 e2+ 85.Ke1 Ke3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
½-½



B44

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2766**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.23)
[Kitty Kat]

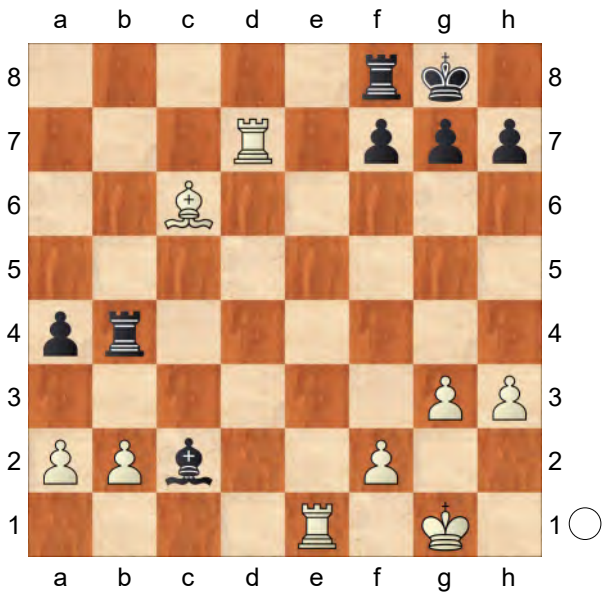
B44: Sicilian: Taimanov: 5 Nb5
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2 d5N
[4...Nf6 5.d3 d5 *(5...g6 6.0-0 Bg7 7.Re1 d5 8.Nbd2 0-0 9.c3 a5 10.e5 Nd7 11.d4 cxd4 12.cxd4 f6 13.exf6 Qxf6 14.Qe2 Re8 15.b3 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 Qxd4 17.Rb1 Qc5 18.Nf3 e5 19.Be3 Qd6 20.Rbd1* Giri,A-Svidler,P Norway Chess blitz 2nd 2014 (8) 0-1*)* 6.Nbd2 g6 7.0-0 Bg7 8.exd5 Nxd5 9.Ne4 b6 10.Bg5 f6 11.Bd2 0-0 12.Qc1 e5 13.Bh6 Bg4 14.Nc3 Nde7 15.h4 Qd7 16.Re1 Rae8 17.Nh2 Bh3 18.Bh1 Nd4 19.Bxg7 Tagelsir,A (2236)-Yilmaz,M (2633) 43rd Olympiad 2018 Open (1.1) 0-1]
[4...g6 5.0-0 Bg7 6.Re1 Nge7 7.c3 d5 8.e5 0-0 9.d4 cxd4 10.cxd4 h6 11.Nc3 a6 12.h4 Nf5 13.Bf4 Qb6 14.Na4 Qa7 15.Be3 Nxe3 16.Rxe3 Ne7 17.Rc1 Nf5 18.Rec3 Bd7 19.Nc5 Khamatgaleev,A (2480)-11.♗e3 ♖e8 12.♗f3 (1856) 125/114 2015 (3) 1-0]
5.exd5 exd5 6.0-0 Nf6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Be7 9.h3 0-0 10.Be3 Nxd4 White has an edge. **11.Bxd4 Bf5 12.Nc3 Ne4 13.Re1 Bf6** 1.26/21
[13...Re8± 0.68/20]
14.Bxf6±
[14.Bxe4?! dxe4 15.Bxf6 Qxf6=]
14...Nxf6 15.Nxd5
[15.Bxd5?! Bxh3 16.a4 *(16.Bxb7 Rb8=)* 16...Qc7=]
15...Nxd5 16.Qxd5 Qxd5 17.Bxd5 Bxc2 18.Re7 Rad8 19.Bxb7 a5



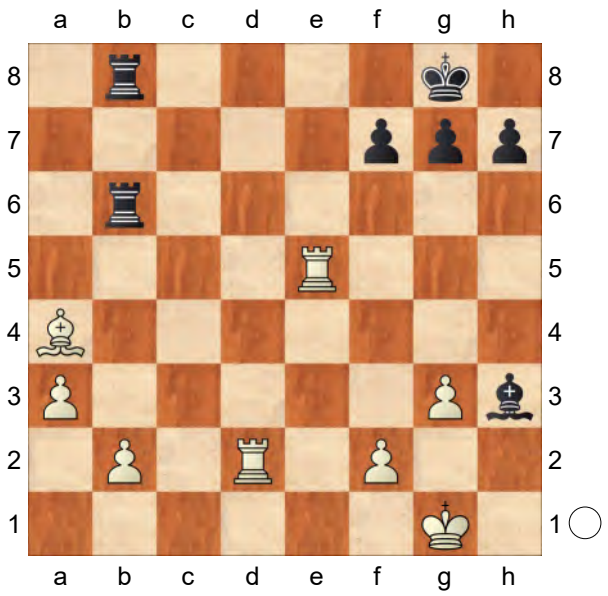
20.Rae1 0.94/22
[⌓20.b3! 1.39/23]
20...a4 21.Bc6 Strongly threatening Re7-e8. **21...Rd4 22.Rd7 Rb4**

(Diagram)

23.Rd2!↑ White has strong initiative.
23...Bf5 2.18/21
[23...Rxb2? loses. 24.Rc1 Rxa2

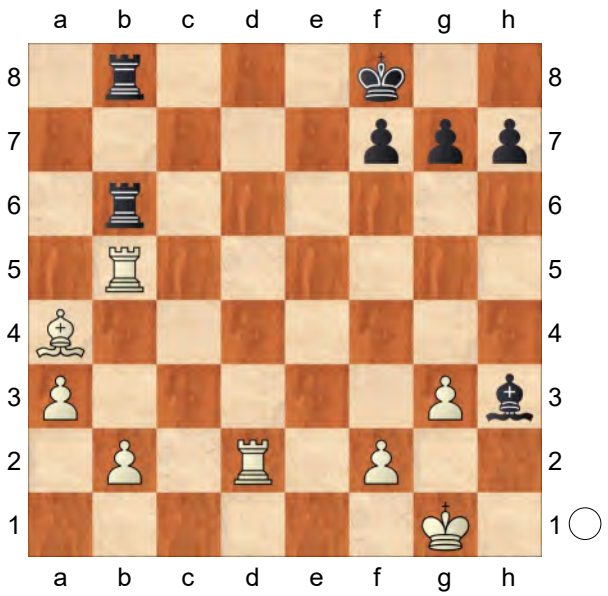


25.Rdxc2+- *(25.Rcxc2 Rxc2 26.Rxc2 g6+-)*]
[23...Rc4± 1.46/22 24.Bd5 Rcc8]
24.a3+- Deflection **24...Rb6 25.Bxa4 Bxh3 26.Re5 Rfb8** 2.58/24
[⌓26...g6 1.73/21 27.Re8 Rxe8 28.Bxe8 Kf8]



27.Rb5! Threatens to win with Rb5xb6.
27...Kf8
[27...Rxb5 28.Bxb5 g5 29.Bc4]

(Diagram)



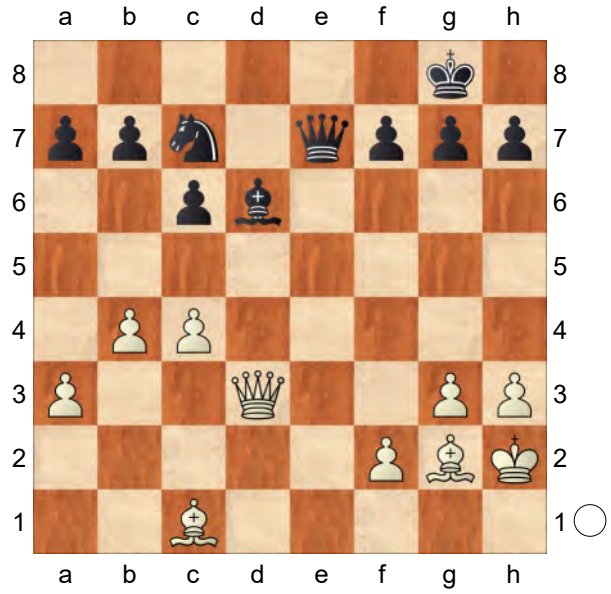
White is clearly better. **28.Rd8+!!** Deflection **28...Rxd8 29.Rxb6 Be6 30.Bb3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.18 (very precise) .
Loss on time!?
0-1

B01
□ **Caruana,Fabiano 2766**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2718**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.15)
[Kitty Kat]

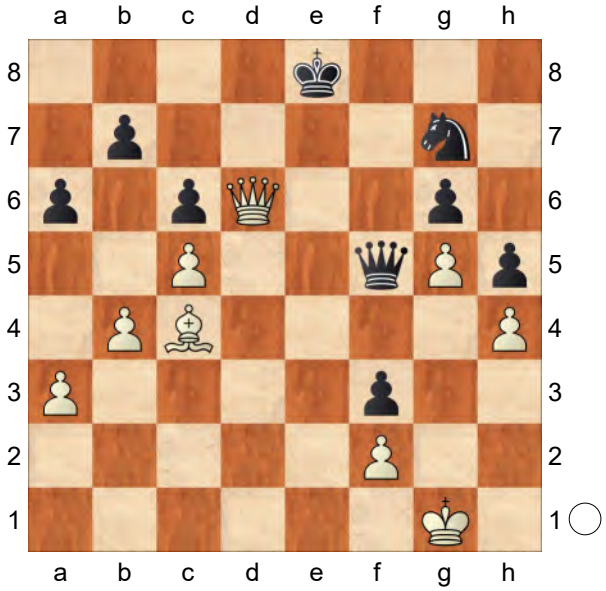
B01: Scandinavian Defence
1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 c6 6.g3 Bg4 7.Bg2 e6 8.0-0 White is better. **8...Be7 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Bxf3**
[10.Qxf3 Qxd4 11.Rd1 Qb6=]
10...0-0 11.Ne2 Nbd7 12.Bg2N
[12.c3 Qc7 13.Bg2 Rad8 14.Qb3 Bd6 15.Be3 Rfe8 16.Rad1 Nd5 17.Bg5 Be7 18.Bc1 b5 19.Nf4 Nxf4 20.Bxf4 Bd6 21.Bg5 Be7 22.Bf4 Bd6 23.Bc1 Nb6 24.Rfe1 a6 25.Qc2 Bf8 26.h4 Nd5 Mamedov,N-Tiviakov,

S 19th Fajr International Chess Open Tour 2011 (10) ½-½]

12...e5 13.c3 Rad8 14.Qb3 Qc7 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Be3 Nfd7 17.Rad1
[17.Bxa7? b6 18.Nd4 *(18.Qa4? b5-+)* 18...Bc5 *(18...Qxa7 19.f4∓)* 19.Bxb6 *(19.Qa4? b5-+)* 19...Nxb6-+ *(19...Qxb6 20.Qxb6 Bxb6 21.a4∓; 19...Bxb6? 20.Kh1-+)*]
17...Nc5 18.Qc2 Nc4 19.Bf4 Bd6 20.Bg5 Be7 21.Bf4 Bd6 22.Bc1 Rfe8 23.b3 Nb6 24.Nd4 Ne6 25.Nxe6 Rxe6 26.Rfe1 Rxe1+ 27.Rxe1 Nd5 28.a3 Qc8 29.b4 Re8 30.Rxe8+ Qxe8 31.c4 Nc7 32.Qd3 Qe1+ 33.Kh2 Qe7



34.Bg5! Deflection **34...Qe6**
[34...Qf8 35.c5]
35.h4 g6 36.Qd4 a6 37.Bh3 A strong pair of Bishops. **37...f5! 38.Qa7** 0.32/22
[38.a4± 0.78/22]
38...Qc8!± 39.Qd4→ White is up to no good. **39...Bf8** Black is weak on the dark squares **40.Bf6 Ne6 41.Qe5 Kf7 42.c5 Qc7 43.Qc3 Bg7?** 2.04/20 Dodges Bh3-f1. Black is on the road to losing.
[Better is 43...Qd7± 0.46/23]
44.Bxg7+- Nxg7 Endgame. KQB-KQN **45.Bf1 f4 46.Bc4+ Ke8 47.g4 Qe7 48.Kg1** 1.16/22
[48.Kg2+- 2.49/24 and the rest is easy.]
48...h5? 4.46/20
[48...h6± 1.16/22 is tougher. 49.Qd4 g5]
49.Qd3 Qf6 50.g5 Qf5 51.Qd6 f3



Hoping for ...Qf5-g4+. **52.Qb8+ Ke7 53.Qd6+ Ke8** ...Qf5-g4+ would now be deadly. **54.Bd3** White is clearly winning.
[54.Qb8+ Ke7 55.Qd6+ *(55.Qxb7+ Kf8+-)* 55...Ke8]
54...Qg4+ 55.Kf1 Qg2+ 56.Ke1 Qg1+ 57.Kd2 Qxf2+ 58.Kd1 Qg1+ 59.Kc2 Qf2+ 60.Kb3 Qe3 61.Ka4
[Weaker is 61.Qxg6+ Kd8±]
61...Qe7 62.Bxg6+ Kf8 63.Qb8+ Ne8 64.Qf4+ Kg8 65.Bxh5 Nc7 66.Bxf3 Nb5 67.g6 a5 68.h5 axb4 69.h6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.27 (precise) . Loss on time!?
0-1

A45

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2766**
Chess.com SpeedChess Ch. (blitz) (1.34)
[R Palliser,Kitty Kat]

A45: Trompowsky Attack
1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 e6 3.e4 h6 4.Bxf6 Qxf6 5.c3 d5 A solid response and one which often leads to French Tarrasch-like play. **6.Nd2 Qd8N**
[Very solid, but there's a reason why the more active 6...c5 is the main line, as in another recent game, where 7.Ngf3 *(7.Bb5+ Nc6 8.Qe2 Be7 9.Ngf3 cxd4 10.e5 Qg6 11.Nxd4 Bd7 12.0-0 0-0 13.Bd3 f5 14.N2b3* 1) Trompowsky: 1...Nf6 2.Bg5-3...h6 with 5. c3 #1 The Trompowsky: Simplified 2023 *)*
A) 7...cxd4= -0.05/27 is superior. 8.exd5 *(8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.N2b3 Bxd4 10.Nxd4 dxe4 11.Nb5 Qe5 12.Nd6+ Ke7 13.Nc4 Qd5 14.Qc2 Nc6 15.Rd1 Qf5 16.Qa4 Qc5 17.b4 Qg5 18.b5 Ne5 19.Qb4+* McDonnell,A-6.Ne5 - 11.Bg2 g5 12. Nxe5 #1 URS-ch Soviet Union 1983 *)* 8...exd5 9.Bb5+ Nc6;
B) 7...Nc6 0.35/26 8.Bb5±
B1) 8...cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bd7 10.exd5 *(10.0-0 Qd8 11.N4f3 dxe4 12.Nxe4 Qc7 13.Qd2 Be7 14.Rfd1 0-0-0 15.Qe3 Kb8 16.b4* Serac,R-#22 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 URS-ch Soviet Union 1983*)* 10...Nxd4 11.Bxd7+ Kxd7 12.cxd4 exd5 13.0-0 Bd6 14.Qa4+ Ke7 15.Rfe1+ Kf8 16.Qd7 Rb8 17.Nf3 g6 18.Ne5 Kg7 19.Nxf7 Qxf7 20.Qxd6 Rhe8 21.Re5 Rbd8 22.Qc5 b6 23.Qc2 Papadiamandis,E (2589)-12. ♕h5 g6 13. ♕d5 ♕c7 (2283) RUS-The World rapid 2002 (3) 1-0;
B2) 8...Bd7 9.0-0 *(here 9.Qe2!?* is quite tempting, but Black's last two moves aren't forced, as we've noted before*)* 9...cxd4 10.exd5 exd5 11.Re1+ Be7 12.Bxc6! bxc6 13.cxd4 0-0 14.Ne5 was slightly more pleasant for White in Jobava-Svane, Titled Tuesday Blitz 2022.]
7.Ngf3 Be7 8.Bd3 Natural and quick development from White, but is it enough to give him an edge? White is slightly better. **8...Nd7**
[I've previously suggested that 8...0-0 seems fine for Black, but after 9.0-0 c5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 the latest engines want to preserve the central tension with 11.Qe2! , claiming an edge for White. It may well be with Rad1 and Nb3 on the way, but Black is solid, does have the two bishops and Qc7 12.Rad1 a5!? may not be totally clear, *(*in contrast to which *12...Nc6 13.Rfe1 Bd7 14.Bc2!* followed by Qd3 and e4-e5 does look good for White. *)*]
9.Qe2 c6?!
[A new and rather passive move for us. 9...0-0 10.h4!? c5 11.e5 Qb6 12.0-0-0! Qa5 1.49/21 *(12...cxd4±* 0.40/23 *13.Nxd4 Nb8)* 13.Kb1? -1.23/23 *(13.g4! Qxa2 14.g5! h5 15.g6!* clearly favours White according to the fearless engines*; 13.g4!±* 1.49/21 and life is bright.*)* 13...c4!∓ 14.Bc2 b5 didn't turn out well for White in Bosiocic-Duda, Katowice (blitz) 2017, as we've seen before.]
[Instead, 9...c5!? doesn't look too

clear to me, and if 10.h4!? cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nc5 .]

10.h4!? The modern-day calling card used by many an aggressive player. Will Black really now dare to castle kingside?

10...Qc7 11.0-0-0 Calmly housing the king and now Caruana is provoked.

11...a5?!

[11...b6!? 12.exd5 *(12.Kb1 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Bb7* is certainly very solid for Black *)* 12...cxd5 13.Kb1 Bb7 14.h5 may well give White a pleasant edge on account of his extra space and superior light-squared bishop, but at least this way Black is very much on the board.]

12.Kb1 b6 13.c4?! 0.06/24

[Upping the ante, but 13.exd5! cxd5 14.g4 would have been simple and strong, angling to break through as with Bb7 1.26/24 *(⌓14...g6* 0.87/23 *)* 15.g5± hxg5 16.hxg5 0-0-0 17.Rxh8 Rxh8 18.g6! .]

[13.exd5± 1.04/26 cxd5 14.g4]

13...dxc4!= 14.Nxc4 Bb7 15.Rc1 c5 Caruana continues to react well as the position quickly becomes rather murky.

16.e5

[Direct, but the calm 16.d5!? Strongly threatening Rh1-d1. 0-0! 17.Ne3 might have been a better try for an edge.]

16...0-0 Fearless play and now it will all come down to which attack lands first.

17.Rh3!? b5 18.Ne3 c4 0.29/22

[Tempting, if by no means forced, with 18...a4!? And now ...c5-c4 would win. 19.Bxb5 *(*or *19.Ng5 a3! 20.b3! c4)* 19...Rfb8 likely decent compensation for Black.]

[⌓18...a4 -0.20/24]

19.Bc2 f5? 1.78/23

[Trying to close lines, but Black needed to be fearless and embrace 19...a4! . Then 20.Ng4! Rfb8 0.51/23 *(20...Rfd8=* 0.00/24 *21.Nxh6+ gxh6)* 21.Ng5!± does favour White, but absolutely anything might have happened from here, especially at blitz: for example,

A) 21...hxg5? 0.74/20 21...Kg8-f8 0.00 22.hxg5 Bxg5 1.14/22 *(22...Bxg2±* 0.34/20 *23.Rg3 a3 24.Nf6+ Kf8 25.Rxg2 Bxf6 26.exf6 gxf6)* 23.f4! is awkward, as well as dangerous;

B) 21...Kf8! 22.Nxh6! gxh6 23.Nxf7! Ke8! *(23...Kxf7?* 1.44/18 23...Kf8-e8 0.87 *24.Qh5+ Kf8 25.Rg3!* is rather too dangerous to allow *)* 24.Qh5 White wants to mate with Nf7-d6+. Nf8 25.Rg3! Kd7 Threatens to win with ...a4-a3. 26.Rg7! when White is apparently around '+1', but to this human pair of eyes things don't look at all clear.]

[19...a4= 0.17/24 20.Ng4 Rfb8]

20.exf6? 0.00/23

[Opening lines, but 20.g4! f4 21.g5! was the brutal and correct way to do so, and if. aiming for g5xh6!

A) 21...fxe3? 22.gxh6 exf2 4.13/23 *(⌓22...g6* 2.75/20 *)* 23.hxg7+- Rf7 24.Ng5 Bxg5 25.hxg5 Intending Qe2-h5 and mate. Rxg7 26.Qxf2 followed by involving the queen wins;

B) 21...h5 22.Nd2 0.87/24 . *(22.g6!+-* 1.95/25 *)*]

[20.g4+- 1.78/23]

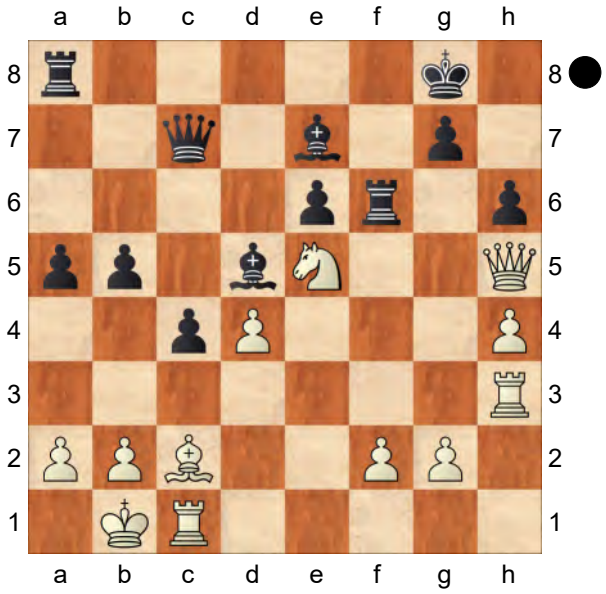
20...Nxf6 21.Ng4!? Discovered Attack, Decoy **21...Bd5** Caruana continues to react well and hold everything together.

22.Nfe5 -0.57/25

[This quickly turns out well, but

objectively 22.Ne3]
[or even 22.Nxh6+!? gxh6 23.Rg3+ Kh8 24.Ne5 Bd6 ...Bd6xe5 is the strong threat. 25.Ng6+ Kg7 26.Ne5+ Kh8 Hoping for ...Bd6xe5. 27.Ng6+ with a repetition was a better choice.]
[22.Nxh6+= 0.00/23 gxh6 23.Rg3+ Kf7 *(23...Kh8 24.Ne5=)* 24.Bg6+ Kg7 25.Ne5]

22...b4?? 10.28/23
[Far, far too ambitious. 22...Nxg4 23.Qxg4 Rf6! was the calm way to cover the light squares and after. Repels Qg4-g6. ...a5-a4! would now be deadly. 24.Qh5 -1.27/20 *(24.Be4!∓ -0.46/21)*

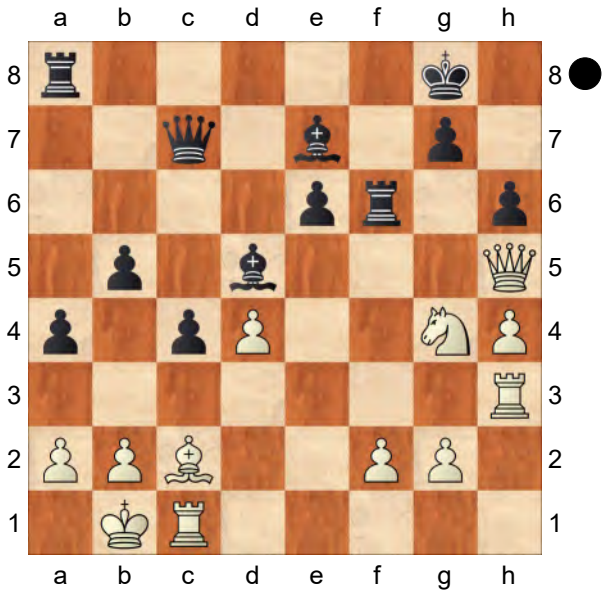


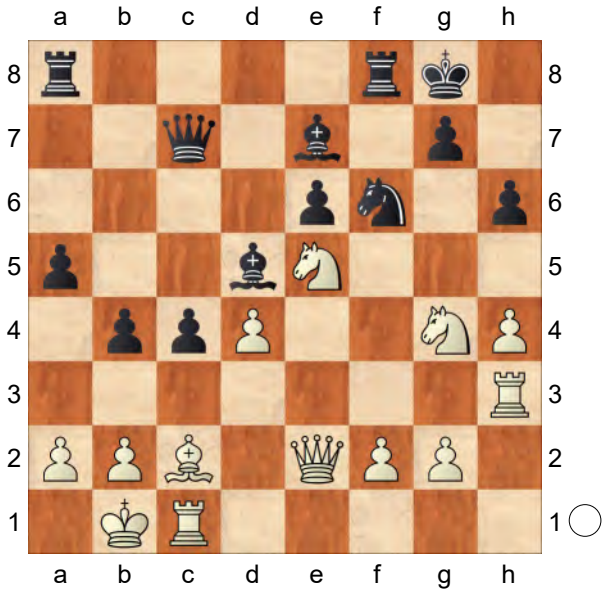
24...a4!∓ White must now prevent ... a4-a3! 25.Ng4

(Diagram)

b4! Black's attack would have been the faster.]
[22...Bxg2? perishes. 23.Nxh6+ gxh6 24.Rg3+ Kh8 25.Rxg2+-]
[22...Nxg4∓ -0.57/25 23.Qxg4 Rxf2]

(Diagram)





23.Nxh6+!+- Oh dear. There's already just no defence. Excellent horsemanship. **23...Kh8**
[23...gxh6 24.Rg3+ Kh8 25.Qe3 is a game-ender, *(as is, of course, 25.Ng6+ .)*]
24.Ng6+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/ Black=0.27 (precise)
1-0

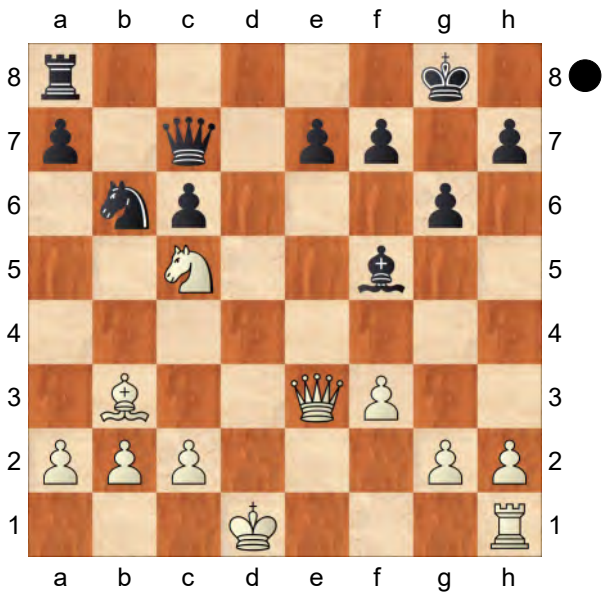
B76

□ **Caruana,Fabiano** 2766
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** 2718
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.19)
[Chris Ward,Kitty Kat]

B76: Sicilian Dragon: Yugoslav Attack, 9 g4 and 9 0-0-0
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0-0 d5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bd4 Bxd4 13.Qxd4 Qb6 14.Na4 Qc7 15.Nc5 A blitz game between two of the World's best and don't let the time limit fool you. Both players are capable of making excellent error free moves at a rapid pace and more to the point, some of these games (this one included) are of serious theoretical interest. **15...Rd8 16.Bc4**
[Black is getting ready to unleash a discovered attack but although the d8-rook isn't yet protected, a little reminder that 16.c4?! -0.33/24 16.Bc4 0.59 e5 17.Qd2 -1.30/20 *(17.Qf2!= -0.04/21 Nf4 18.Rxd8+ Qxd8 19.Qe3)* 17...Bf5∓ 18.cxd5 -2.04/23 *(18.Na6∓* -1.37/22 might work better. *Qb6 19.c5)* 18...cxd5-+ 19.b4 a5 tenders Black massive counterplay for the piece that White may have been hoping to simply bag!]
16...Bf5 Connecting the rooks and eyeing up the c2-pawn. White is slightly better. **17.Bb3**
[This retreat is played virtually all the time now though with note 17.g4? -0.82/24 17.Bb3 0.39 running into Bxc2! i.e. 18.Kxc2? -3.99/20 *(Or 18.Rd2 Nb6 19.Qc3 Qf4; 18.Rde1∓* -0.83/24 *)* 18...Nb4+]
17...Nb6
[Currently experiencing the best results in practice. Still the most played move though is 17...Nf4 about which you will find plenty in the archives as well as mentions of both 17...h5 and 17...Rd6.]
18.Qe3
[18.Qc3 isn't as good as it neither scrutinises e7 nor covers the f4-square.]
18...Rxd1+! now scores much better than the old 18...Nd5. punktet besser als das ältere 18...Sd5. I awarded this with a '!?' in a recent annotation here and that makes me wonder whether the young Indian talent is an enthusiastic ChessPublishing follower!?
[Instead 18...Nd5 0.71/19 18...Rxd1+ 0.31 had tended to be played and specifically with this game in mind, the reference Caruana,F (2828)-Le Tuan Minh (2515) chess.com INT 2019 might interest the reader. Although in many respects it is logical to keep on more pieces, the immediate swap at least forces White to make a decision.]
19.Rxd1
[Obviously 19.Kxd1 -0.80/23 19.Rxd1 0.52

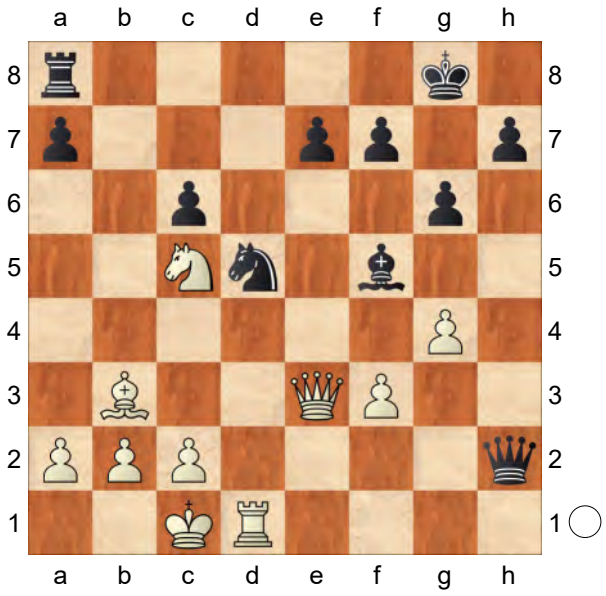
(Diagram)

keeps the h2-pawn guarded for now but after Rd8+! 20.Kc1 Nd5 compared to the 18...Nd5 reference above, here at least Black has a rook on the d-file and White doesn't!]
19...Qxh2 White remains nicely centralised but Black has bagged a pawn. **20.g4**
[The immediate restoration of material equality through 20.Qxe7



0.30/23 20.g4 0.67 is met by Nd5 when 21.Bxd5?! -0.26/22 *(Perhaps then 21.Qe2* -0.01/23 21.Qg5 0.36 when *Bh3* is mad... Chances for both sides!*; 21.Qe2±* 0.32/24 *)* 21...cxd5 would no longer see White pressurising f7 but in contrast there definitely being a threat on c2.]

20...Nd5!



The best responses but to be fair there weren't many candidates! **21.Qd4N** Here though there definitely choices in what could become a key position:

[21.Qe1 0.11/22 21.Qd4 0.58 Qd6 Black is a pawn up but it's complicated! Hoping for ...Bxc2. 22.Bxd5 cxd5 23.Qe3 when 23...Rc8 is possible but Bc8 *(Given it* potentially obstructs the rook, not the ideal square for the bishop but *23...Bd7?* 1.32/24 23...Bc8 -0.01 *24.Rh1!* would leave the black queen having to protect it as well as having to deal with the h-file threats.*)* Also to be fair the black rook will happily activate on b8. 24.c4 e6 featured in the site annotated Haring, F (2398)-Pijpers,A (2486) Prague CZE 2022.]

[21.Qd2! Qxd2+! 22.Kxd2 Bc8 23.Ba4 *(23.c4 Nc7 24.Ba4 Ne6 25.Bxc6 Rb8 26.Nxe6 Bxe6 27.Kc3 Rb6 28.Bd7 Bxd7 29.Rxd7 Kf8 30.b4 h5 31.g5 Rd6 32.Rxa7 h4 33.Ra8+ Kg7 34.Ra3 Ra6 35.Rb3 h3 36.Rb2 Ra3+ 37.Kd4 Rxf3* 5.♘b5 ♕b8 6.c4 ♘f6 7.î (2433)-8. ♕d2 ed5 9.ed5 ♖e8_64440 (2389) FRA-chT2b 0304 2003 (7) 1-0*)* 23...Rb8 24.Bxc6 Nb4 25.Ba4 Rb6 26.a3 *(26.c3 Rd6+ 27.Ke2! Nd5* is anyone's game!*)* 26...Rd6+ 27.Ke1 Rxd1+ 28.Kxd1 Nd5 has ended in draws in all practical outings.]

[21.Bxd5?? -#1/6 21.Qd2 0.64 Qxc2# was worth a mention!]

[21.Rxd5 cxd5 22.gxf5 Qh1+ 23.Kd2 Qh2+! is about equal and it wouldn't be a great surprise if it ended in a perpetual check.]

[21.Bxd5? Qxc2#]

21...e5 22.Qd2N

[Vorgänger: Upon 22.Qc4 rather than incarcerating the rook by retreating the bishop to base, interesting is Rf8!

Strongly threatening ...Ne3. 23.gxf5 Ne3 24.Qe4 Nxd1

A) Rather than 25.Kxd1? -0.17/24 25.fxg6 0.51 Qg1+ 26.Kd2? -4.86/24 *(26.Ke2= -0.23/26 Qxc5 27.fxg6)* 26...Qxc5;

B) 25.fxg6! Nf2! (-> ...Qg1+) *(*And not *25...hxg6?* 3.85/28 25...Nf2 0.33 *26.Qxg6+ Kh8 27.Qf6+ Kg8 28.Qg5+ Kh8* ...f6 is the strong threat. *29.Kxd1)* 26.gxf7+ Kh8 27.Qe1 with a mess that also ended in a draw in Golubenko,A (2332)-Larsen,A (2176) ICCF email 2019. Wards off Qg1. And now Nd7 would win. Qh6+ 28.Kb1 ½-½ (48) Golubenko,A (2332)-Larsen,A (2176) ICCF email 2019]

[22.Qc4 is interesting. Rf8 23.gxf5 Ne3 24.Qe4]

22...Qxd2+ 23.Rxd2 0.01/23

[23.Kxd2± 0.37/23 Be6 24.Re1]

23...Be6= 24.Re2⇄ White is fighting back

[It would be easy to assume that after 24.Nxe6 -0.12/21 24.Re2 0.33 fxe6 White was better because of his bishop for knight advantage and Black's pawn structure weaknesses. However that assessment would be incorrect for a few reasons. Black has counterplay against f3 and the chance to create a troublesome outside passed pawn. His knight is a rock on d5 and after say 25.c4 Nf4 26.Rd7 -0.69/21 *(⌓26.Bc2 -0.33/21)* 26...h5! highlights my point! The white rook sits pretty on d7 but it's far from obvious how he should stop Black getting a new queen!]

24...Kg7?! 0.62/24 Although it's natural to want to activate the king, this is an inaccuracy that allows White a strong response.

[Instead 24...Nf4! 25.Rxe5 Bxb3 is fine which ever way White recaptures on b3 with for example 26.axb3 Rd8! cutting off the white king and 27.Re7? -0.65/24 *(27.Re4=* -0.01/21 *Rd4* Decoy *28.Rxd4 Ne2+ 29.Kd2 Nxd4 30.f4)* 27...h5! *(27...Kg7!?)* 28.gxh5 gxh5 creating that awkward to deal with passed h-pawn.]

[24...Nf4= -0.01/23 25.Rxe5 Bxb3 26.axb3 Kg7]

25.g5!±

[Upon 25.Rxe5 -0.01/23 25.g5 0.62 Kf6! 26.Re1 Black could play 26... Rh8 first but h5 would have got the h-pawn under way with the king out and about too.]

[Much weaker is 25.Rxe5 Kf6 26.Re4 Rc8=]

After the text though the f6 square isn't available to the black king whilst there is no way to create a passed h-pawn either. **25...Bf5 26.Bxd5!**

[26.Rxe5 f6 27.gxf6+ Kxf6∓]

26...cxd5 27.Rxe5 Endgame. KRB-KRN **27...Rd8** It's clear White is on top now but when there are pawns on both sides in a bishop Vs knight scenario nothing is ever easy. **28.b4 Kf8** 1.66/24

[28...h5 ...h4 would now be deadly. 29.gxh6+ Kxh6 was maybe a more obvious way to activate the king but not necessarily better.]

[28...h5± 0.91/26 was necessary.]

29.Kd2+- Rd6 30.f4 1.26/22

[Or 30.a4 as f6 31.gxf6 Black must now prevent Re7. Rxf6 drops the d-pawn.]

[30.a4+- 1.72/24]

30...f6± 31.Re3 0.73/22 Clearly White's

idea was maintaining a pawn on g5 to prevent Black creating a passed h-pawn.
[⌓31.Re2 1.24/23]
31...Rb6 32.a3 d4 33.Re1 a5! 34.c3! dxc3+ 35.Kxc3 axb4+ 36.axb4 fxg5 37.fxg5 Rb8 38.Ra1 0.65/23
[38.Kc4! looking to advance the pawn would have gotten on with things quicker.]
[38.Kc4± 1.14/24]
38...Ke7!≛ 39.Ra7+ Kd6 40.Rxh7 White is now a pawn up but at least Black has activated his king. **40...Ra8 41.Kc4** 0.33/24
[41.Kd4± 0.81/22]
41...Ra1 42.Kb5 0.01/25
[42.Rh8≛ 0.44/21 was preferrable.]
42...Rb1 0.48/24
[I'm not sure why 42...Rg1 didn't immediately appear with White having obstructed his passed pawn but this features eventually.]
[42...Rg1= 0.01/25]
43.Rh2 Ke5 44.Rf2 Kd4 45.Ka5 0.09/24
[45.Rg2≛ 0.45/23]
45...Kc4 46.Rf4+ Kd5! 47.Kb6 0.14/22
[47.Kb5!≛ 0.54/22]
47...Rg1!= 48.b5 Rxg5 White's passed pawn is a little more advanced than Black's but the bishop for knight advantage is now more prominent. **49.Rf2 Rg4** The position is equal. **50.Rd2+ Rd4 51.Rf2**
[51.Rxd4+ Kxd4 52.Kc6 Bh3 53.b6 Bg2+ 54.Kd6 would be heading for a draw but possibly White was still harbouring higher ambitions.]
51...Rb4 52.Na6 Rb1 53.Nc7+ Ke4 54.Kc5 Ke3 55.Rg2 Be4 56.Rh2 g5 And I'm assuming here White lost on time. It's trickier for him now but it should still be a draw.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless) . Loss on time!?
0-1

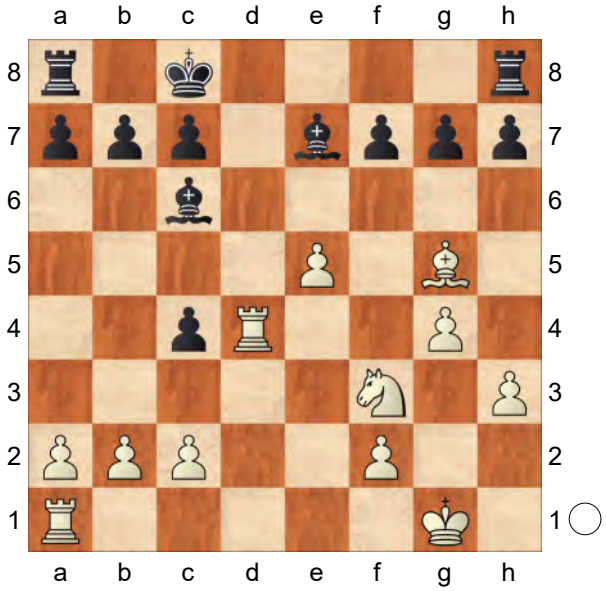
C67
□ **Caruana,Fabiano 2766**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2718**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.19)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Bd7 10.Rd1 g2-g4 is the strong threat. **10...Be7 11.g4 Nh4** The position is equal. **12.Nxh4 Bxh4 13.Nd2 Kc8 14.Nf3↑** White is more active.
[14.Ne4 b6 15.Bg5 Bxg5 16.Nxg5 h6 17.Nxf7 Re8 18.f4 Be6 19.Nxh6 gxh6 20.f5 Bxf5 21.gxf5 Rxe5 22.Rf1 Kd7 23.Rad1+ Ke7 24.Rfe1 Kf6 25.Rxe5 Kxe5 26.Rd7 c5 27.Kf2 Rf8 28.Rxc7 Rxf5+ 10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5 7469 (2771)-Molina,R (2881) WchJW-U10 Szeged 1994 (6) ½-½]
14...Be7 15.Rd3
[15.Bg5 Bc5 16.Rd3 Be6 17.Re1 h5 18.a3 hxg4 19.hxg4 a5 20.Re4 b5 21.Be3 Be7 22.Kg2 Kb7 23.Kg3 c5 24.Bg5 c4 25.Rd1 Bc5 26.c3 c6 27.Nh4 Rh7 28.f4 Bd5 29.Re2 b4 Firouzja,A (2744)-Grischuk,A (2708) Chess.com SpeedChess blitz 2024 (1.1) 1-0]
15...c5N 0.48/21
[15...h6= -0.02/19 16.Nd4 Re8 *(16...b6 17.Rf3 Be8 18.Nf5 Bf8 19.b3 Bd7 20.Bb2 Be6 21.Nd4 Bd5*

22.Re3 Bc5 23.c4 Be6 24.f4 g6 25.Rf1 Kb7 26.Kg2 Rad8 27.Rd3 h5 28.Nxe6 Rxd3 29.Nxc5+ bxc5 30.e6 Rhd8 31.exf7 Chapter C50-Games Chapter C50 Game 8 *)* 17.Bf4 c5 18.Nf5 Bf8 19.c4 a6 20.Ne3 b5 21.b3 g5 22.Bg3 Be6 23.Rad1 Kb7 24.h4 Kc6 25.h5 Reb8 26.f3 a5 27.Nd5 bxc4 28.bxc4 Rb2 29.R3d2 Rab8 30.Kf2 a4 Caruana,F (2782)-Grischuk, A (2785) Warszawa 119/(106) 2013]

[15...b5 16.Bg5 Bc5 17.Be3 Bxe3 18.Rxe3 h5 19.Ng5 Be6 20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.Rd1 hxg4 22.hxg4 g5 23.Kg2 Rh4 24.Kg3 Kb7 25.f4 Rah8 26.fxg5 Rh3+ 27.Kf4 Rf8+ 28.Ke4 Rh4 29.Rg1 Rg8 30.Rg2 Chapter 12B1-8.a4 ♗b7 9.d3 d6 10. ♘bd2 (ol) 34/110 Luzern 1982]

16.Bg5± c4 Black is weak on the dark squares **17.Rd4 Bc6**



And now ...f7-f6 would win. **18.Bxe7 Bxf3 19.Kh2 Re8 20.Bh4 c6 21.Re1**

[21.Rxc4 Rxe5 22.Rd4 g5±]

21...Bd5 22.f4 a5 23.c3 0.38/25

[White should play 23.a4± 0.88/19]

23...b5 0.77/21

[23...a4± 0.38/25 is superior.]

24.Rd2± White now steadily converts the win. **24...b4 25.Bf2 bxc3 26.bxc3 Rb8 27.f5 a4** 1.76/20

[27...Rb5± 1.23/22]

28.Bc5+- Rb7 29.Kg3 Kd7 1.99/22

[29...g6± 1.50/20 30.Bb4 h6]

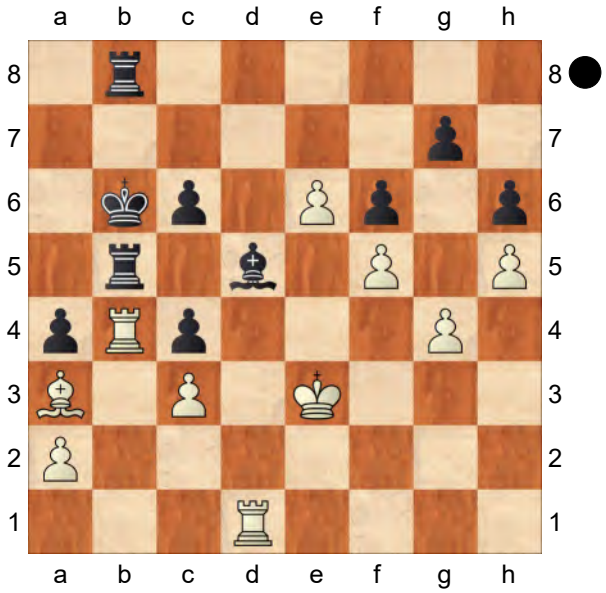
30.Ba3 Rb5 31.Kf4 Rbb8 3.06/22

[31...g6 1.97/20 keeps fighting. 32.h4 gxf5]

32.h4 Rb5 33.h5 h6 34.Rdd1 f6 4.48/22

[⌓34...Reb8 3.19/21 35.Rg1 Rh8]

35.e6+ Kc7 36.Rb1 Reb8 37.Rb4 Ra8 38.Reb1 Rab8 39.Ke3 Kb6 40.Rd1



Black must now prevent Rb4xb5+.

40...Rxb4 41.Bxb4 Endgame. KRB-KRB **41...Kc7 42.Re1 Kd8?** 5.76/27

[42...Bg2 3.40/22 might work better. 43.Rd1 Bd5]

43.Bf8 Rb7 44.e7+ Ke8 45.Re2

[45.Bxg7 Rxe7+ 46.Kd2 Bf3=]

45...Rb1 46.Bxg7 Kxe7 47.Kf2+

[47.Bxh6 Rf1 48.Kd4+ Kf7=]

47...Kf7 48.Bxh6 a3 4.78/21

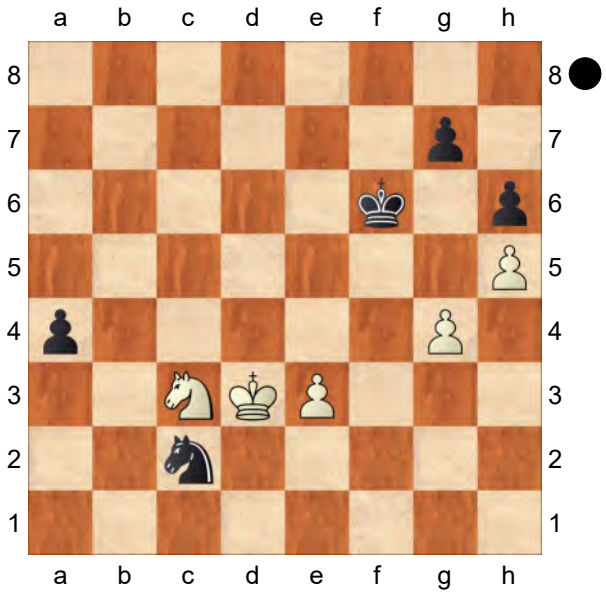
[48...Rh1 3.40/18 is a better defense. 49.Bf4 c5]

49.Bf4 White is clearly winning. **49...Rd1 50.Bd6 Rd3 51.Re7+**
[51.Bxa3 Rxc3 52.Bb4 Rf3+ 53.Ke1 c3=]
51...Kg8 52.h6
[52.Bxa3 Rxc3 53.Bd6 Rc2+ 54.Re2 Rc3±]
52...Rh3 6.90/27
[⌓52...Rf3+ 4.84/21 53.Ke2 Kh8]
53.Rg7+ Kh8 54.Rg6
[54.Bxa3 Rxh6 55.Bf8 Rh2+ 56.Kg3 Rg2+ 57.Kh3 Rg1±]
54...Rxc3 55.Be7 Kh7 56.Bxf6 Rc2+ 57.Kg3 #11/19
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.40. Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?
[57.Ke3+- 12.50/23 Rb2 58.g5]
0-1

D00
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2766**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.29)
[Kitty Kat]

D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5N
[2...c5 3.d5 d6 4.e4 g6 5.Nf3 *(5.f4 Bg7 6.Bb5+ Nfd7 7.a4 Na6 8.Nf3 Nc7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 e6 11.dxe6 fxe6 12.f5 Ne5 13.fxg6 hxg6 14.Be3 Bd7 15.Nxe5 Rxf1+ 16.Bxf1 Bxe5 17.Qg4 Qf6 18.Bc4 Rf8 19.Rd1 Rf7* Leisebein,P (1200)-Grott,P (1200) SE014 www.desc-online.de 2000 ½-½ *)* 5...Bg7 6.Be2 *(6.Bc4 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Bf4 Ne8 9.Re1 Nb6 10.Bf1 e5 11.dxe6 Bxe6 12.a4 Nd7 13.Nb5 Bg4 14.Nxd6 Be5 15.Bxe5 Bxf3 16.Qd5 Nc7 17.Nf5 gxf5 18.Bxc7 Qxc7 19.Qxf5 Bxg2 20.Bxg2 Rae8* Atalik,S (2561)-Epishin,V (2605) CCA-ICC op Lake George 2005 (9) ½-½ *21.Ra3 Ne5 22.Rg3+ Ng6 23.e5 Qd8 24.Qh5 Qd2 25.Rh3 h6 26.Ree3 Re6 27.Qxh6 Rd8 28.Bf1 Qc1 29.Qh7+ Kf8 30.Rhf3 Rd7 31.Rd3 Nxe5 32.Rxf7+ Nxf7 33.Rxd7 Qg5+ 34.Kh1 Rf6 35.Bc4 Qc1+* Zhang,P (2562)-Ni,H (2390) Perenyi Memorial 2000 (7) 1-0 *)* 6...Na6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bf4 Nc7 9.a4 Bg4 10.Qd2 a6 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Nd7 13.Be2 Rb8 14.Bh6 b5 15.axb5 axb5 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.b4 Chapter 5 - Egoism-Speelman vs. Hartston]
3.Bf4 e6 4.Nb5 Na6 5.e3 Be7 6.Nf3 0-0 7.h4 c5!? An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **8.c3** The position is equal.
[8.a4 Bd7 9.Ne5 Nb4 10.g4 -0.54/20 *(10.c3=* -0.12/19 is more appropriate.*)* 10...a6 11.Nc3 -1.08/21 *(11.g5∓* -0.53/21 *Ne8 12.Nc3)* 11...cxd4∓ 12.exd4 Rc8! 13.f3 Dodges Nf6-e4 Be8 14.Bd3 -1.62/22 *(14.Nd3∓* -1.01/19 might work better.*)* 14...Nd7 15.g5 -2.63/21 *(15.Nxd7∓* -1.50/20 *Bxd7 16.Qd2)* 15...Nxe5 16.Bxe5 0-1 (26) Erigaisi,A (2718)-Caruana,F (2766) Chess.com INT 2022 0-1 (26) Erigaisi,A (2718)-Caruana,F (2766) Chess.com INT 2022]
8...Bd7 9.a4 Ne4N 0.62/19
[Vorgänger: 9...c4 10.b3 Qa5 11.bxc4 Bxb5! 12.axb5 Qxc3+ 13.Nd2 Nb4 14.Rc1 Repels Nb4-c2+ Nd3+ 15.Bxd3 Qxd3 16.Qe2 dxc4 17.Rxc4 Qa3 18.0-0 Rfc8 19.e4 a5 ½-½ (19) Najer,E (2676)-Sjugirov,S (2703) Cheboksary 2022 ½-½ (19) Najer,E (2676)-Sjugirov,S (2703)

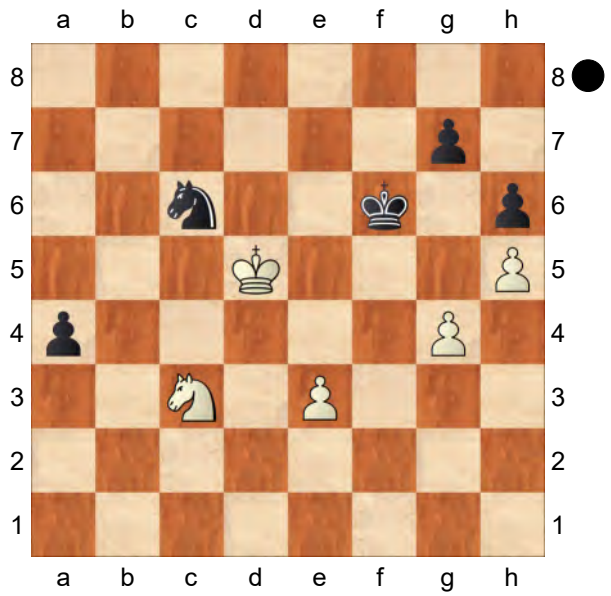
Cheboksary 2022]
[9...Bxb5= 0.05/21 10.axb5 *(10.Bxb5 c4=)* 10...Nc7]
10.h5 0.00/19
[10.Bd3!± 0.62/19]
10...h6 0.65/20
[10...c4!= 0.00/19]
11.Ne5 0.01/21
[11.Bd3!± 0.65/20]
11...Nb8 12.Bd3 a6 13.Na3
[13.Bxe4 keeps more tension. dxe4 14.Qg4 f5 15.Qg3]
13...Nc6 0.78/21
[13...Ng5= 0.17/19 keeps the balance.]
14.Bxe4 -0.01/22 **dxe4** 0.55/21
[14...Nxe5= -0.01/22 15.Bc2 Nc6]
15.Nxd7!± Qxd7 16.dxc5
[16.Nc4]
16...Rfd8 17.Qxd7 Rxd7 18.Ke2 Threatens to win with Na3-c4. **18...e5** 1.52/25
[Better is 18...Bxc5± 0.42/22 19.Nc4 Ne7]
19.Bg3 Bxc5 20.Nc4 Re8 21.b4 Bf8 22.b5 Na7 2.30/23
[22...Ne7± 1.30/22 was worth a try.]
23.Nxe5+-
[23.Bxe5 axb5 24.Nb6 Rdd8=]
23...Rd5 24.Rhd1 1.11/24
[24.c4+- 2.49/25 is more deadly. Rc5 *(24...Rdxe5? 25.Bxe5 Rxe5 26.Rhd1+-)* 25.Rhd1]
24...Rxd1± 25.Kxd1 0.01/25
[25.Rxd1± 1.40/25 axb5 26.a5]
25...axb5= 26.Kc2 Bd6! 27.Ng4 Bxg3 28.fxg3 Endgame. KRN-KRN **28...Rc8 29.Nf2 f5 30.g4 bxa4 31.gxf5**
[31.Rxa4!? Nb5□ 32.gxf5 Nxc3 33.Ra5=]
31...Rc4 32.Rb1 Inhibits Na7-b5.
32...b5 33.Rb4 -0.89/24
[33.g4= 0.00/24]
33...Rxb4∓ 34.cxb4 KN-KN **34...Nc6 35.Kc3 Ne7 36.Nxe4 Nxf5 37.Kd3 Kf7! 38.g4** -1.05/27
[White should try 38.Nc3!∓ -0.54/27]
38...Ne7 -0.50/27
[38...a3∓ -1.05/27 39.Kc3 *(39.gxf5? is the wrong capture. a2-+)* 39...Nxe3 40.Nd6+ Kf6 41.Nxb5 Nd5+ *(41...Nxg4 42.Nxa3 Ke6 43.Nc2∓)* 42.Kb3 Nxb4 43.Kxa3 Nd5]
39.Nd6+∓ Kf6 aiming for ...Ne7-d5.
40.Nxb5 Nd5 41.Nc3 Nxb4+ 42.Kc4 Nc2 43.Kd3



Nb4+ 0.01/25
[Black should play 43...Ne1+!∓ -0.82/25 44.Ke2 a3 45.Kxe1 Kg5]
44.Kc4= Nc6 45.Kd5 -1.13/29
[45.Nxa4= 0.00/30 Ne5+ 46.Kd4]

(Diagram)

45...Ne7+!∓ 46.Kc4? -4.99/27
[46.Kd6∓ -0.99/28 was the crucial defense.]
46...Kg5 47.Nxa4 Kxg4 48.e4? -4.56/26
[48.Kd3 -2.69/28 was the only



chance.]

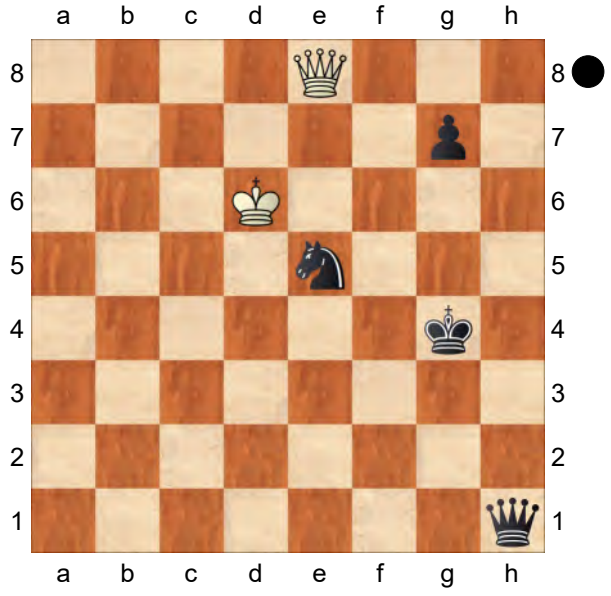
48...Kxh5-+ 49.Kc5 -10.02/27

[⌓49.Kd4 -4.52/27]

49...Kg4 50.Kd6 Ng6 And now ...h6-h5 would win. **51.Nc5 h5** ...h5-h4 is the strong threat. **52.e5 h4 53.e6 h3** Strongly threatening ...h3-h2. **54.Nd3 h2 55.Ne5+ Nxe5** Black mates. **56.e7 h1Q**

[Inferior is 56...h1R 57.e8Q Rd1+ 58.Ke6=]

57.e8Q



Qc6+! 58.Qxc6 Nxc6 59.Kxc6 g5 Black used his chance.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.70/ Black=0.20 (precise)

0-1

E44

☐	**Erigaisi,Arjun**	**2722**
■	**Rapport,Richard**	**2740**

155/190 Wijk aan Zee 2023

[Paunovic,Tomislav, MH]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6 John Emms: 'This traditional approach to the Nimzo was a favourite of mine (and others) in my youth. It's refreshing to see that it's still occasionally played at the elite level, despite the challenge 5 Nge2 poses.' **5.Nge2 Ne4 6.Qc2 Bb7**

[6...f5?! Committing to f5 at such an early stage should be slightly dubious. 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.Nxc3 Nxc3 *(8...Bb7 9.d5!?)* 9.Qxc3 Bb7

A) 10.d5!?

A1) 10...Qf6 11.Bd2 0-0 *(11...exd5 12.cxd5±)* 12.Qxf6 Rxf6 13.Bc3 Doesn't look like fun for black;

A2) 10...0-0 11.b4;

A3) 10...Qe7 11.Be2 0-0 12.b4±;

B) 10.b4

B1) 10...d6 11.Bb2 Nd7 12.d5± *(12.c5* Yedidia,D (2041)-Cordova,E (2543) 32nd Chicago Open 2023 (3) 0-1 *)*;

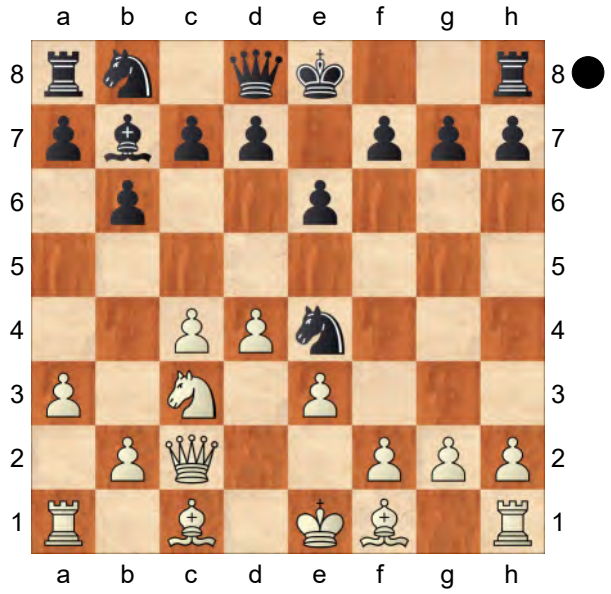
B2) 10...0-0 11.Bb2 d6 12.d5 e5 13.Bd3 Nd7 14.0-0 Rf7 15.f4± This is the type of position that black should try to avoid getting in this line with 6.Qc2. White has pressure in the long diagonal a1-h8 and space advantage while black lacks a

plan to get counterplay. Franco Alonso,A (2389)-Tejedor Fuentes,E (2453) TCh-ESP Div Honor 2019 (7.4) ½-½]

7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.Nxc3

[8.bxc3?! Doesn't make much sense. If white wanted to get the doubled pawns he should have refrained from playing Qc2. f5 *(8...Qh4!? 9.Nf4 f5∓)* 9.f3 Qh4+ 10.g3 Qe7 11.Bg2 Nd6! *(11...Ng5* Nakhbayeva,G (2371)-Cramling,P (2465) World Rapid Women 2018 (9.14) 0-1*)* 12.c5 Nc4∓]

Kapnisis,Spyridon: '



' **8...Nxc3** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Exchanging the knights is the right way to continue with black. Keeping the knights on the board by playing f5 gives white some interesting options.'

[8...f5?!

A) 9.Bd3 Nxc3 10.Qxc3 Qg5! poses more problems to white and keeps the position balanced. *(10...0-0 11.0-0 d6 12.f3 Nd7 13.b4 Qe7 14.Bb2 e5 15.d5 a5 16.Rae1 Bc8 17.f4±* Pavlidou,E (2172)-Khusenkhojaev,M (2417) Titled Tuesday 30th Nov 2021 (2) 1-0 *)*;

B) 9.b4 a5 10.Bb2 axb4 11.axb4 Rxa1+ 12.Bxa1 Qe7 13.Nxe4 Bxe4 14.Qd2 Bb7 15.f3± Lobanov,S (2545)-Mitsis,G (2407) 23rd ch-EUR Indiv 2023 (9.71) 1-0;

C) 9.Nxe4 Bxe4

C1) 10.Qd1 Bb7 11.f3?! *(11.Be2!±)* 11...a5 12.Bd3 Qh4+ 13.g3 Qh5∞ Ubilava,E (2495)-Short,N (2648) Gibraltar Masters 2019 (3.26) 0-1;

C2) 10.Qc3!?;

C3) 10.Bd3?!

C3a) 10...Bxg2?! 11.Rg1 Bf3 12.Rg3 Bh5 13.d5!↑ *(13.f4* Akshat,K (2403)-Balint,V (2333) FSGM December 2018 (6.1) 1-0 *)*;

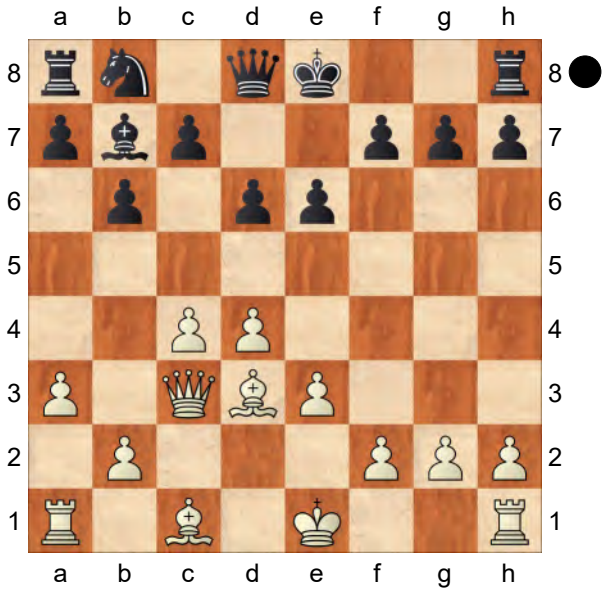
C3b) 10...Qh4!∞;

D) 9.Ne2!? is a somewhat strange looking proposal of Stockfish 16. 9...Qh4 *(9...0-0 10.h4!; 9...Qe7 10.h4!±)* 10.g3 Qe7 *(10...Qh5 11.Bg2 0-0 12.0-0 d6 13.d5! exd5 14.Nf4 Qf7 15.cxd5±)* 11.Bg2 0-0 12.0-0 a5 13.b3 d6 14.Bb2± *(14.Nc3!? d5 15.Bb2 Nd7 16.a4!±)*]

9.Qxc3 d6 John Emms: '!?' John Emms: 'This move order nuance has injected some new life into this line. Black normally castles first and then follows up with ...d6 and ... Nbd7, but there's some merit to delaying castling.' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'this looks like the most sensible way to continue with black. Commiting the king with short castle seems inaccurate while bringing the queen to h4 is not really needed right now.'

[9...Qh4 - 50/591 10.b4 *(10.d5!?±)*
A) 10...a5?! 11.b5 d6 12.c5!± *(12.Bb2?* Vidonyak,R (2442)-Alinasab,M (2364) Titled Tue 5th Jul Early 2022 (10) 0-1 *)*;
B) 10...0-0 11.Bb2 d6 12.d5! *(12.c5* Prieto Aranguren,A (2262)-Zavgorodniy,S (2423) Titled Tue 5th Apr Early 2022 (6) 0-1*)* 12...Qh6 13.Be2 Nd7 14.0-0 Nf6 15.dxe6 fxe6 16.f3±]
[9...0-0
A) 10.b4
A1) 10...a5 11.b5! *(11.Bb2* Ashwin,J (2500)-Heimann,A (2271) PRO League Group Stage 2019 (9) 1-0*)* 11...d6 12.c5!±;
A2) 10...d6 11.Bb2
A2a) 11...Nd7?! 12.c5! *(12.Bd3?!* Sarana,A (2675)-Skliarov,V (2387) Titled Tue 10th May Late 2022 (2) 1-0*)* 12...Bd5 13.c6 Nf6 14.f3±;
A2b) 11...Qf6! 12.f3 *(12.h4!?)* 12...Qh4+ *(12...a5!?)* 13.g3 Qh5 14.d5 e5 *(14...f6 15.Be2 exd5 16.cxd5 c5 17.e4±* Sharpe,S (2330)-Dufour,M (2311) CAN MT-Sarosy email 2018 1-0 *)* 15.f4 Nd7 16.Bg2 f5 17.0-0 Rae8∞;
B) 10.h4!?;
C) 10.b3 d6 11.Bb2 John Emms: 'and here'
C1) 11...Qf6 John Emms: '!?' John Emms: 'is another way to discourage queenside castling and transposes to Townsend,P-Ward,C/4NCL 2001 (see Chris's notes to that game).' 12.Qc2 Nd7 13.Bd3 *(13.0-0-0!?±)* 13...Qh6 *(13...Qh4! 14.0-0 Bxg2!=)* 14.0-0 f5 15.Rae1 Rae8 16.f3± Arbuzov,M (2227)-Lintchevski,D (2536) 16th Moscow Open A 2020 (1.10) 0-1;
C2) 11...Nd7 12.0-0-0 Qe7 *(12...Qh4 13.f3 f5 14.Kb1 Nf6 15.Bd3±* Ashwin,J (2495)-Wang,T (2312) CCCSA Labor Day GM 2018 (4.2) ½-½ *)* 13.f3 f5 14.Bd3 c5 15.Bc2 *(15.dxc5 Nxc5 16.Bc2 Rac8 17.Rxd6+-* Schultz,A (2211)-Plaskett,J (2455) World Senior Teams +50 2018 (8.2) 0-1*)* 15...d5 16.cxd5 *(16.dxc5* Tran Quoc Dung (2326)-Tran Tuan Minh (2514) ch-VIE 2018 Ho Chi Minh City VIE (2.1) ½-½ *)* 16...Bxd5 17.e4±]
[and 9...Qf6 are covered in the archives.]

10.b3
[10.Bd3



Qg5! Standard idea against the development of Bf1. *(10...Nd7?! 11.0-0 0-0 12.e4±* Madaminov,M (2436)-Iskandarov,M (2592) 16th

Agzamov Mem 2023 (9.3) 1-0)
A) 11.Bd2 Qxg2 12.0-0-0
A1) 12...Qxf2 13.Rdf1 (13.Rhg1 Badelka,O (2453)-Kosteniuk,A (2516) World Blitz Women 2021 (3.17) 0-1) 13...Qh4 14.Rhg1⩲;
A2) 12...Nd7 is a safer option;
B) 11.Rg1 Nd7 (11...Qh4!?) 12.Bd2 Qh4! (12...Qh5?! 13.h3 Nf6 14.f3 Qh4+ 15.Kd1 Nd7 16.Kc2± Pshmahov,O (2095)-Petrov,N (2558) Tuapse Rapid Open 2022 (9.2) ½-½) 13.h3 0-0 14.Qc2 c5! 15.Bc3 Rac8∓ Tsvetkov,A (2297)-Khusnutdinov,R (2470) ACF Botvinnik Mem Cup 2018 (1.6) 0-1]
[10.b4 John Emms: 'is met by'
A) 10...Qh4 In case we continue with the same plan that Rapport did in the main game white has the extra option of c5 which seems to give white a small plus.
A1) 11.Bb2 Nd7 (11...Be4!∞ See the main game Erigaisi-Rapport) 12.d5
A1a) 12...e5?!
A1a1) 13.Bd3 c6! (13...0-0?! 14.0-0 Rae8 15.f4± Korobov,A (2688)-Postny,E (2600) Titled Tuesday 9th June 2020 (7) 1-0) 14.e4 cxd5 15.cxd5 Rc8 16.Qb3 0-0 17.0-0 Nf6 is playable for black;
A1a2) 13.Be2 0-0 14.0-0 f5 15.f3 Rf6 16.Qe1⩱ Sorokin,A (2547)-Tomashevsky,E (2694) AimChess Rapid Play-In 2023 (3.43) 0-1;
A1b) 12...Nf6∞;
A2) 11.d5!?;
A3) 11.c5!? Bd5 12.cxd6 cxd6 13.Qc8+ Qd8 14.Qxd8+ Kxd8 15.Bd3⩱;
B) 10...a5! John Emms: '- see the notes to Riess,A-Buckels,V/ Willingen 2019.'Important move to remember with black.
B1) 11.b5?! Qf6!∓ Stops c5 and prepares Nd7,0-0-0 and e5. Black's king will be perfectly safe in the queenside while white still has development problems to solve.;
B2) 11.d5 Qf6!? 12.Qxf6 (12.Bb2 Qxc3+ 13.Bxc3 axb4 14.axb4 Rxa1+ 15.Bxa1 0-0 16.e4 f5∞) 12...gxf6 13.Bb2 Nd7 14.e4 Ke7∞;
B3) 11.Bb2 axb4 12.axb4 Rxa1+ 13.Bxa1
B3a) 13...Qg5 14.d5 0-0∞ (14...e5?! Aleksandrov,A (2592)-Morgunov,M (2311) European Blitz 2019 (3.35) 1-0);
B3b) 13...Nd7 14.c5 Bd5 15.c6 Nf8 16.f3 f5∞ Obregon,A (2525)-Kosteniuk,A (2518) Titled Tuesday 23rd Nov 2021 (5) 0-1;
B3c) 13...0-0 14.d5 (14.f3 Nd7 15.Bb2 f5 16.c5 Bd5⇄ Bochev,K (2443)-Vasconcellos,R (2417) GER M07-C email 2018 ½-½) 14...Qg5 Kapnisis,Spyridon: ' ∞' 15.h4 Qg6 16.h5 (16.f3 Nd7 17.Kf2 Ra8 18.e4? Ra2+∓ Riess,A (2305)-Buckels,V (2443) ch-GER Youth U18 2019 (6.2) 0-1; 16.Rh3? Qb1+ 17.Kd2 e5∓ Hammer,J (2631)-

Tregubov,P (2556) Chessable Masters Play-In 2023 (4) ½-½) 16...Qb1+ 17.Kd2 e5 (17...f6!?) 18.g4

B3c1) 18...Qe4 19.Rg1 Qf3 20.Ke1 Nd7 21.Be2 Qh3 22.e4 Qh4∞ Kalogridis,A (2219)-Petrov,N (2568) 30th Kavala Open 2021 (2.3) ½-½;

B3c2) 18...Qa2+ 19.Qb2 Qa4 20.e4 Na6 21.f4∞ (21.Rh3? Qxb4+∓ Meshkovs,N (2566)-Tregubov,P (2548) Bundesliga 2022-23 (8.5) 0-1);

B3c3) 18...c5!?;

B3c4) 18...Na6 19.Bb2 Qe4 20.Rg1 Qb1!∞ (20...f5? 21.f4+- Tisaj,D (2239)-Subelj,J (2425) 30th ch-SLO 2020 (9.4) ½-½)]

[10.f3 Qh4+ 11.g3 Qh5 12.e4 f5! Black correctly hurries to hit white's center before white gets the chance to finish his development. 13.Bg2 (13.Be2 0-0 14.exf5 Qxf5 15.0-0 c5!?∞) 13...fxe4 14.fxe4 0-0 15.Bf4 Nd7 16.0-0 Rae8 17.Bd2 Rxf1+!? (17...e5 Di Benedetto,E (2409)-Ranaldi,L (2237) 10th Dolomiti Open 2019 (6.10) ½-½) 18.Rxf1 Nf6∞]

[10.d5 John Emms: 'is also possible, and is covered in Colonetti,F-Bellahcene,B/Bassano del Grappa 2021.'

A) 10...e5?! 11.Bd3 (11.e4 a5 12.b3 Nd7 13.Bd3 0-0 14.0-0 Qe7 15.Bb2± Redzisz,M (2223)-Kantans,T (2492) Polish Rapid Ekstraliga A 2022 (9.3) 1-0) 11...a5 12.b4 0-0 13.0-0 c6 14.dxc6 Bxc6 15.f3 is pleasant for white;

B) 10...0-0

B1) 11.e4?! It seems dubious for white to play e4 with his king still in the center.

B1a) 11...Qh4!?;

B1b) 11...Re8 12.Be3 exd5!? (12...Nd7 Vorobjov,P (2293)-Kantans,T (2481) Online Olym Div2 B 2021 (1.2) 0-1) 13.exd5 c6∞;

B1c) 11...Nd7⇄;

B2) 11.dxe6?! fxe6 (11...Qh4!?) 12.Qc2? (12.h4 e5∓) 12...Qh4 13.b4 Nd7 14.Bb2 Rf7-+ Colonetti,F (2071)-Bellahcene,B (2518) 1st Easter Bassano Open A 2021 (1.7) 0-1;

B3) 11.b4

B3a) 11...exd5 12.Bb2! (12.cxd5 Bxd5 13.Bb2 f6⇄ Romanchuk,V (2266)-Kosteniuk,A (2516) Titled Tuesday 25th Jan 2022 (11) 0-1) 12...d4 (12...f6 13.Bd3!≅) 13.Qxd4 f6 14.Be2 Nd7 15.0-0 a5 Black has a solid position. White might be slightly better but he will have a hard time breaking black's setup.;

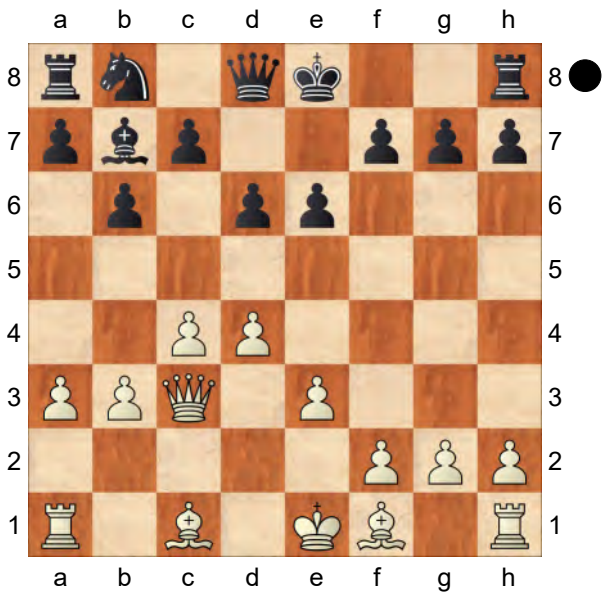
B3b) 11...a5!? 12.Bb2 Qg5! 13.h4 axb4 14.axb4 Rxa1+]

[10.h4!? This is an interesting way to play with white if you want ro restrict black's counterplay with Qh4. Nd7]

Kapnisis,Spyridon: '

(Diagram)

' **10...Qh4** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' John Emms: 'Castling is possible too, but



Rapport has something quite different in mind. On h4 the queen pins the f-pawn and makes it difficult for White to castle either side. 'Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'I like Rapport's aprroach'

[10...Nd7

A) 11.h4!? is a move proposed by stockfish with the clear intention of stopping the activation of black's queen to h4 or g5.

A1) 11...Qe7 12.Bb2 f5 13.f3 Rg8 14.0-0-0 0-0-0 15.b4 h6 16.h5 Nf6 17.Bd3 Kb8 *(17...Qe8!?)* 18.Kb1 Qe8 19.a4 Qxa4 20.b5 a6∞ Tabatabaei,M (2677)-Theodorou,N (2584) Airthings Masters Div 3 L 2023 (3.2) ½-½ *(20...d5!?)*;

A2) 11...e5! Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!?' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'See the analysis in the line 10.b3 Nd7 11.h4'

A2a) 12.Bb2 exd4 13.exd4 *(13.Qxd4 f6∞* Black has a solid enough setup, restricting white's Bb2.*)* 13...Qe7+! 14.Kd2 0-0-0 15.d5 Rhe8 16.Kc2 *(16.Qxg7 Nc5⩱)* 16...c6∞;

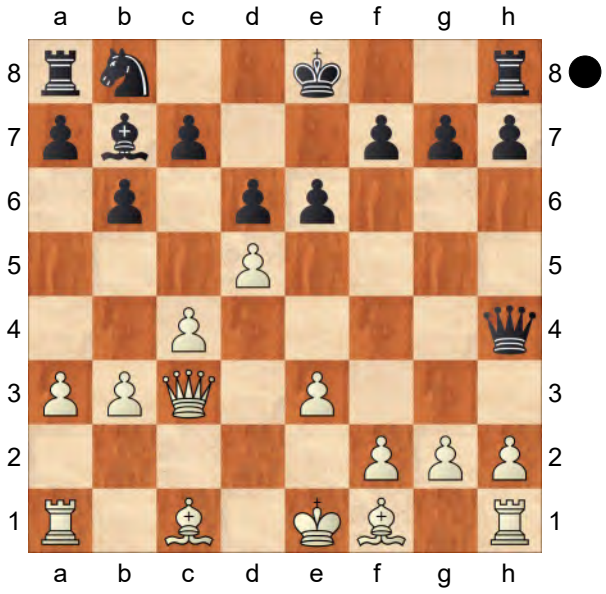
A2b) 12.d5 f5 13.Bb2 0-0 14.f3 Nf6 *(14...Nc5 15.0-0-0 Qf6 16.Be2 a5∞)* 15.0-0-0 Bc8! is playable for both sides.;

A2c) 12.f3 Qe7 13.d5 f5 is similar to 12.d5 *(13...c6!?)*;

B) 11.Bb2]

11.Bb2 Diagram

[11.d5!?



A) 11...e5?! Releasing the tension in the center by playing e5 seems to favour white who solidifies his space advantage. 12.Bd3 *(12.Be2!?)*

A1) 12...c6! black must react immediately in the center 13.e4 *(13.dxc6?! Bxc6 14.0-0 Bxg2!=)* 13...f5 14.exf5 cxd5 15.cxd5 0-0 16.0-0 Nd7 17.Bb2±;

A2) 12...Nd7 13.0-0 0-0 14.e4 *(14.Bb2!?)* 14...a5 15.Be3 Rfe8 16.f3 Nf8 17.b4± Mastrovasilis,A (2518)-Filip,A (2325) 23rd ch-EUR Indiv 2023 (10.103) 1-0;

B) 11...Nd7! Black should be ready

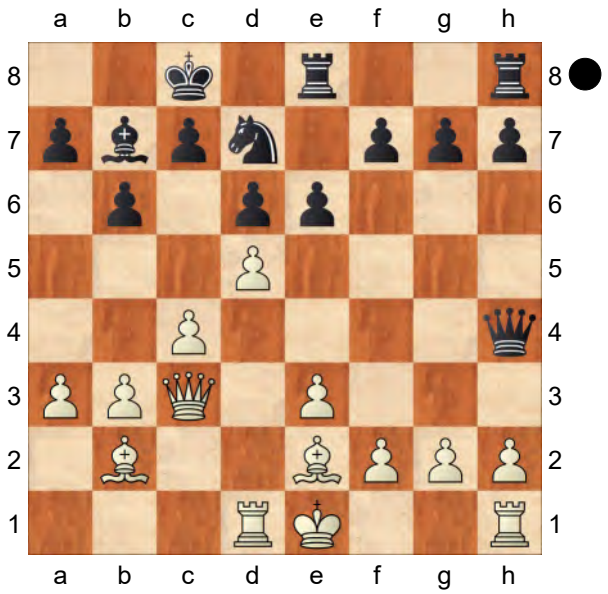
to sacrifice a pawn or two in order to get the initiative against the white king who will be stuck in the center for quite a while.

B1) 12.Be2?! exd5 13.cxd5 Bxd5 14.0-0 Qf6!∓;

B2) 12.Bb2 John Emms: '!?' John Emms: 'looks like a challenging response.' 0-0-0 13.Rd1 We have a transposition to a line shown above with 10... Nd7 instead of 10...Qh4.

B2a) 13...Rhg8 14.Be2 g5!? *(14...Qg5 15.0-0 exd5 16.cxd5 Bxd5 17.f3⩱)* 15.0-0 g4∞ Black seems to have his fair share of counterplay against the white king.;

B2b) 13...Rde8 14.Be2



Qg5! 15.Qxg7 Qxg7 16.Bxg7 Rhg8 17.Bb2 Rxg2 18.Bf3 Rgg8 John Emms: 'was level in Meiners, E-Miettinen,K/ ICCF email 2018.' 19.b4

B2b1) 19...a5!? 20.Bc3 *(20.bxa5 bxa5∓)* 20...axb4 21.axb4 Ref8!? 22.Ke2 b5!⇄;

B2b2) 19...Ba6 20.Be2 Bb7∞ Meiners,E (2381)-Miettinen,K (2453) USA BITNY-A email 2018 ½-½;

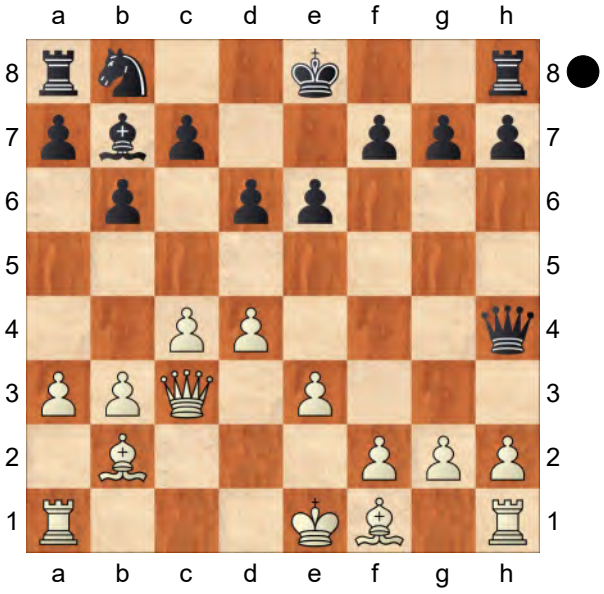
B2c) 13...f5!? 14.Rd4?! *(14.Be2 Nf6 15.0-0∞)* 14...Qg5 15.g3 Kb8 16.Bg2 e5 *(16...h5!?∓)* 17.Rd2∓ Hrescak,I (2237)-Blohberger,F (2467) Uppsala Young Champions 2020 (4.4) 0-1;

B3) 12.Qxg7 0-0-0

B3a) 13.Qxf7? Rhf8-+;

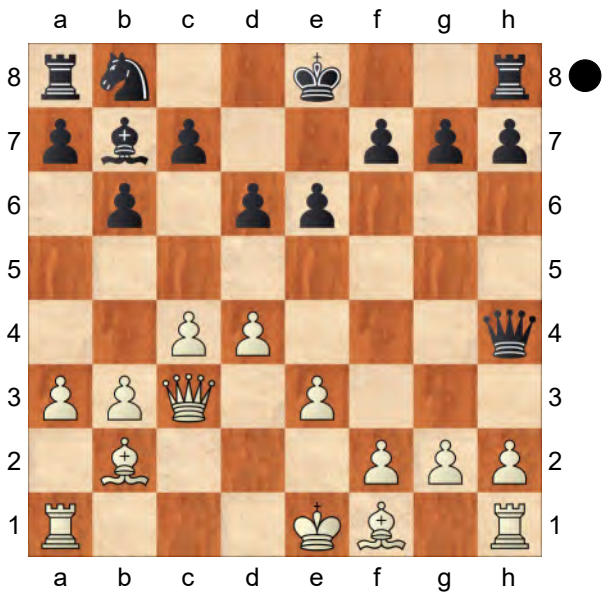
B3b) 13.Bb2 Rhg8 14.Qd4 Rg4 15.Qd3 Rdg8 *(15...exd5!? 16.cxd5 Rg5∞)* 16.g3 Qh5! 17.Be2 exd5 18.cxd5 Bxd5∞;

B3c) 13.Qd4 John Emms: '(Moiseev,O-Karner,H/ Parnu 1973)' 13...Qh5 John Emms: 'looks like reasonable compensation for Black.' 14.Be2 Qg5 15.g3 Nc5 16.h4 Qe7⩱]



Kapnisis,Spyridon: '

(Diagram)



' **11...Be4!N** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' John Emms: '!?' John Emms: 'This is the first new move of the game.'Kapnisis, Spyridon: 'Here Rapport shows us an important idea for black. White's plan of playing d5 and shutting down Bb7 is a lot less dangerous after 11...Be4!'

[11...Nd7 John Emms: 'would transpose to 11...Nd7, below.'

A) 12.Ke2? 0-0-0∓ *(12...0-0?!* Dimitrov,V (2285)-Kilgus,G (2450) Graz Open A 2020 (3.12) 0-1 *)*;

B) 12.Qc2?! Be4! *(12...0-0 13.Bd3 f5 14.d5 Nc5 15.b4 Nxd3+ 16.Qxd3 Rae8∓* Johansson, L (2464)-Hansen,S (2581) TCh-SWE Elitserien 2018 (5.2) 0-1*)* 13.Qe2 d5!?⇄;

C) 12.Rd1

C1) 12...f5

C1a) 13.d5 Nf6 14.Qd4 Qh6!? *(14...Qxd4 15.Rxd4 e5 16.Rd2 Kf7∞)* 15.dxe6 0-0-0∞;

C1b) 13.c5 Bd5! 14.cxd6 cxd6 15.Qc7 Ke7 16.Ba6 Bxg2 17.d5 exd5! *(17...Bxh1?? 18.dxe6+-)* 18.Rg1 Qxh2 19.Ke2 Rhg8∞ Ivanisevic,I (2606)-Bluebaum, M (2669) European Hybrid Qual 2021 (3.2) 1-0;

C2) 12...Be4!⇄ A move which was used by Rapport in our main game.;

D) 12.d5 John Emms: 'transposes to 11...Nd7, below' 12...0-0-0 transposes to the notes after 11. d5 *(12...Nf6 13.Rd1!* supports the d5-pawn and introduces the idea of Rd4 chasing the queen. *exd5 14.cxd5 Bxd5? 15.Rxd5!)*]

12.Qd2 Kapnisis,Spyridon: '?!' John Emms: 'Erigaisi defends the f2-pawn in preparation of long castling. If White can play 0-0-0 and f2-f3, he could soon build up a dominating position.'Kapnisis, Spyridon: 'White plays a normal looking move protecting f2 and preparing 0-0-0 and f3 but he will not be in time to execute his plan.'

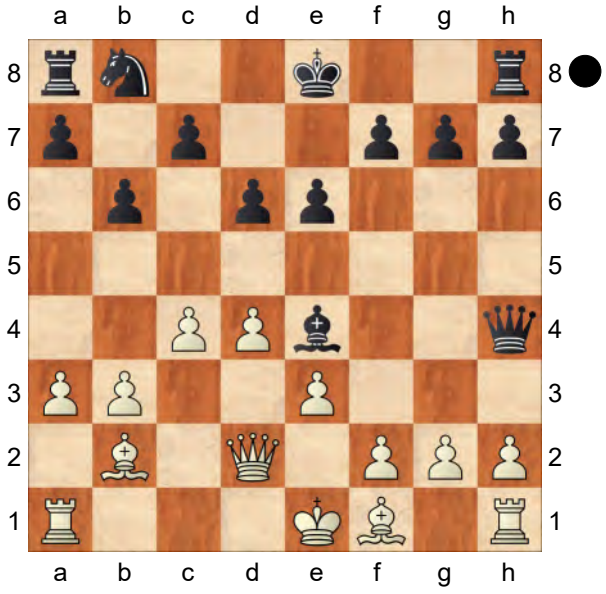
[12.c5 0-0∞]

[12.h3!?]

[12.Ke2!? John Emms: 'is liked by Stockfish. It looks crazy, but it does have the merit of enabling f2-f3 next move.' Playing such a move without being prepared beforehand is difficult/ impossible for most of us. White's idea is of course to unpin f2 and play f3 kicking black's bishop back to b7. Nd7 13.f3 Bb7 John Emms: '!?' *(13...Bg6!? 14.g3 Qe7 15.Kf2∞)* 14.Qe1 Qe7 *(14...Qh6)* 15.Kd2 *(15.Kd1!?* is a possible continuation which I can't resist giving, not least because it's so rare that a king and queen swap is effective! The king is relatively safe, and White may castle by hand with Kc2, Rd1, etc.*)* 15...g5!∞]

[12.d5 e5! demonstrates a key point behind Rapport's ...Be4. With the bishop outside the pawn chain, Black is more than willing to block the centre.]

Kapnisis,Spyridon: '

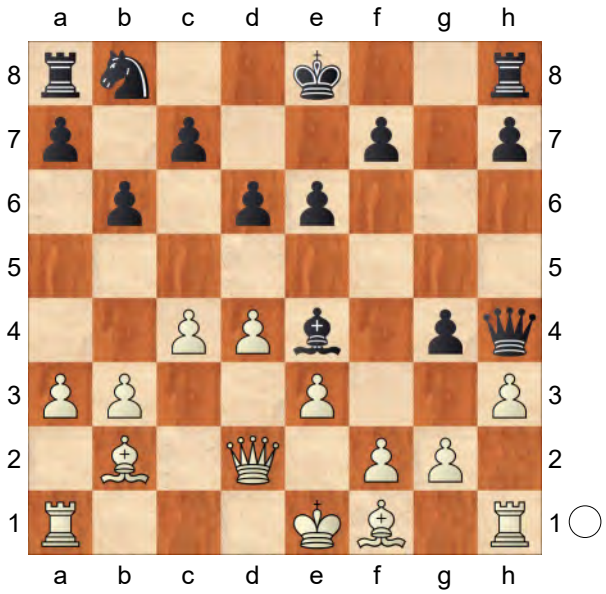


' **12...g5!** John Emms: 'Rapport reacts with wonderful creativity to the problem of f2-f3. What's more, this seems like a total solution. Black intends ...g4, safeguarding the bishop's presence on e4.' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Excellent handling of the position by Rapport. Black is threatening g4 making it very difficult for white to mobilize his kingside pieces.' **13.h3**

[John Emms: 'After' 13.0-0-0 g4↑ 14.Rg1! Nd7 *(14...Qxh2?! 15.Bd3 Bg6 16.Kb1 Nd7 17.c5!?⩲)* 15.Bd3 Bxd3 16.Qxd3 0-0-0 John Emms: 'chances look roughly level.' is fine for black *(16...Qxf2 17.Qe4 Ke7 18.Kb1∞)*]

13...g4 Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' John Emms: '!' Kapnisis,Spyridon: '

(Diagram)



' **14.0-0-0** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '?!'

[14.c5!? White should have tried to create some counterplay by opening the c file while leaving his king in the center. Easy to say with the help of stockfish! Nd7 15.Rc1 *(15.d5!?)* 15...0-0 *(15...Rg8?! 16.cxd6 cxd6 17.a4!±)* 16.d5! Ne5!? *(16...e5 17.cxd6 cxd6 18.Qb4 Nf6 19.Qxd6 Rfe8* leads to very sharp play and apparently the position is balanced.*; 16...Nxc5? 17.b4 Na4 18.Qd4 Nxb2 19.Qxe4±; 16...exd5!? 17.cxd6 cxd6 18.Be2∞* Again we have a position balanced according to the machine but very sharp to the human eye.*)* 17.cxd6 cxd6 18.Bxe5 dxe5 19.d6 Rac8 20.Rxc8 Rxc8 21.d7 Rd8 22.Qb4 Bc6 23.Be2∞]

14...Rg8 John Emms: 'This discourages Rg1, which was one of White's ways of breaking the bind.'

[14...Nd7!?↑ Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!?' John Emms: 'is possible too.' 15.Rg1! *(15.d5 Nc5!)*

A) 15...gxh3?! 16.Rh1! is White's idea *(or 16.f3)*;

B) 15...h5 John Emms: '!' 16.hxg4

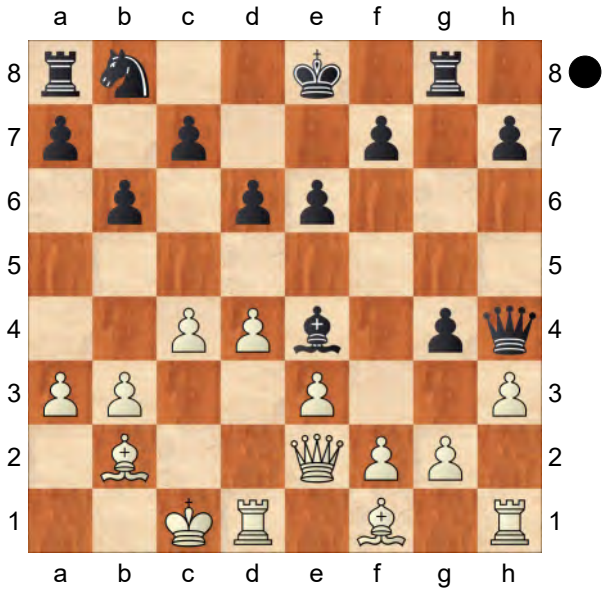
hxg4 17.Bd3 Bxd3 18.Qxd3 Qxf2 19.Rdf1 Qg3 20.Qe4 Rc8∞]

15.Qe2 Kapnisis,Spyridon: '?'

[⩲15.g3 Qg5 16.Rh2 h5 17.hxg4 hxg4 18.Bd3 Bf3 *(18...Bxd3 19.Qxd3 Nd7 20.Qe4 Ke7∞)* 19.Re1 Nd7 20.e4∞]

[Now 15.Rg1? gxh3 16.f3 is met by Bxf3!]

Kapnisis,Spyridon: '



' **15...Qh5** John Emms: 'Rapport continues to prevents f2-f3.'Kapnisis, Spyridon: 'Rapport decides to stop f3 although it was not necessary. By using prophylaxis he puts white in a difficult spot to find a plan to untangle his kingside.'

[15...h5!?]

[15...Nd7!? 16.f3?! gxf3 17.gxf3 Bb7 John Emms: 'is fine for Black, even though White has finally achieved the advance.' 18.e4 *(18.Bc3 f5 19.Be1 Qh5∓)* 18...Rg3∓]

16.Rg1?! John Emms: '?' John Emms: 'Erigaisi stubbornly tries to break Black's light-squared grip.'

[16.Bc3!? Nd7 17.Kb2 0-0-0 *(17...Ke7!?)* 18.a4 a5 19.Qd2∞]

[16.Qd2! threatening Be2, would have been wiser, although Black remains fine after Qh6]

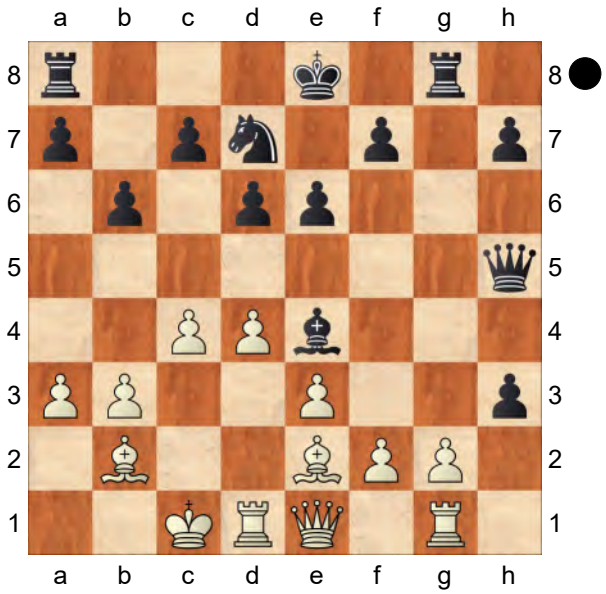
16...Nd7∓ 17.Qe1?! Kapnisis,Spyridon: '?'

[John Emms: 'The problem for White is that' 17.hxg4? Qh2-+ John Emms: '!' John Emms: 'traps the rook, and' 18.f3 Qxg1 19.fxe4 Nf6! looks decisive.]

17...gxh3 Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' John Emms: '!'

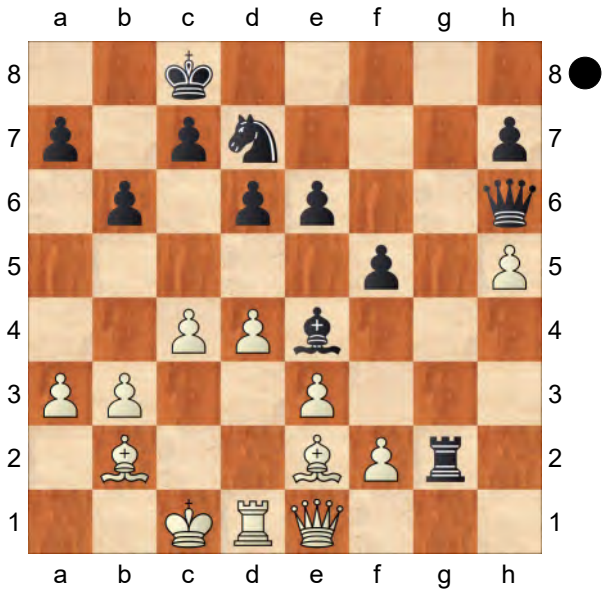
[17...f5∓]

18.Be2 Diagram



18...Qh6!∓ Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Stops white from playing f3.' **19.gxh3 0-0-0** Kapnisis, Spyridon: ' ∓' John Emms: ' ∓!' John Emms: 'Now Black enjoys a clear advantage, and over the next few moves Rapport increases his grip. White still can't eject the bishop with f2-f3, as this time the e3-pawn would hang.' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Black is clearly in total control of the position and soon white will have problems defending his weak pawn on h3.' **20.Rg4?!** John Emms: '?'

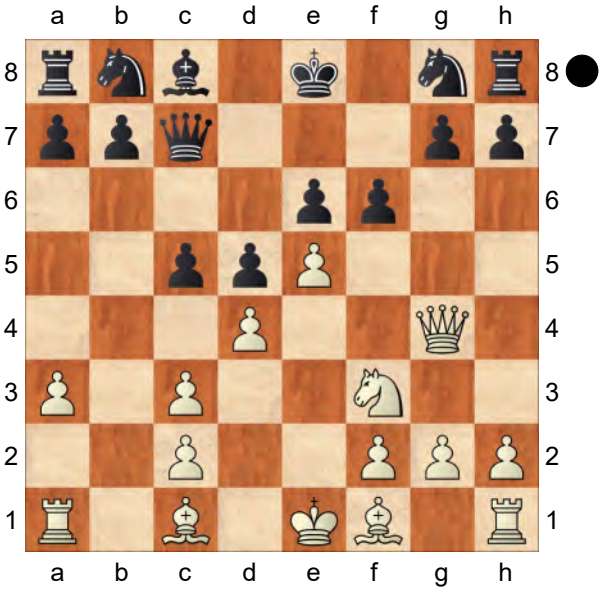
[20.h4!? f5∓ *(20...Qxh4 21.f3 Qxe1 22.Rdxe1 Bg6∓)*]
20...f5 Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' John Emms: '!' **21.Rxg8 Rxg8-+ 22.h4 Rg2!** Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Choosing activity over pawn grabbing is a lot stronger since white is in no position to react.' **23.h5** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '



' **23...f4** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' John Emms: '!' **24.f3** John Emms: 'Finally it comes, but it's met by a simple tactical solution.'
[24.exf4 Qxf4+ 25.Qd2 Qxf2-+]
24...Qxh5 Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' John Emms: '!' **25.Bf1?**
[25.exf4 Rxe2 26.Qxe2 Bxf3]
25...Rc2+ Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'An excellent game by Rapport who outplayed his strong, young opponent. A model game for black in this line.'
0-1

C18
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
■ **Rapport,Richard** **2740**
155/190 Wijk aan Zee 2023
[Paunovic,Tomislav]

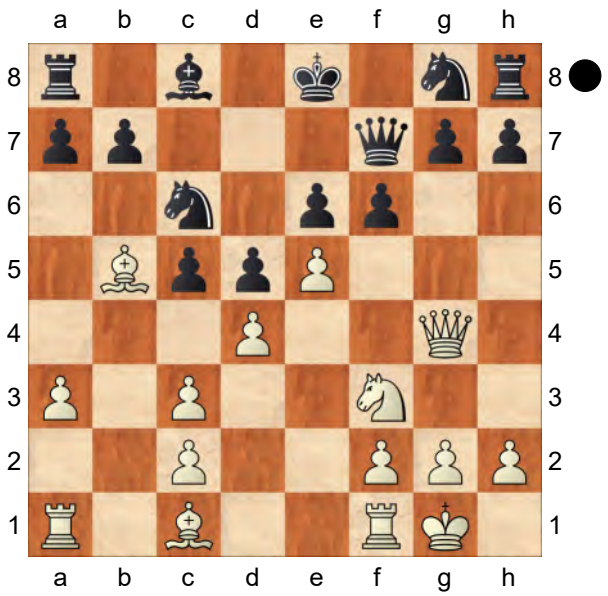
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f6 8.Nf3 Kapnisis,Spyridon: '

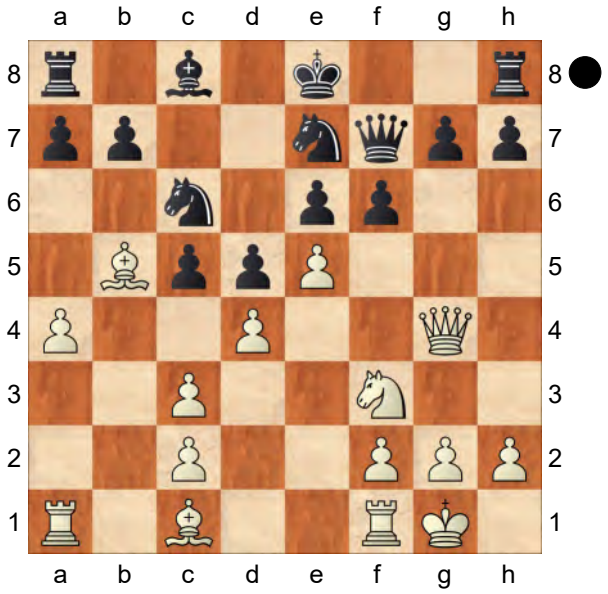


' **8...Nc6** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Exchanging the knights is the right way to continue with black. Keeping the knights on the board by playing f5 gives white some interesting options.' **9.Bb5 Qf7** Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'this looks like the most sensible way to continue with black. Commiting the king with short castle seems inaccurate while bringing the queen to h4 is not really needed right now.' **10.0-0** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '

(Diagram)

' **10...Nge7** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'I like Rapport's aprroach' **11.a4** Diagram
(Diagram)



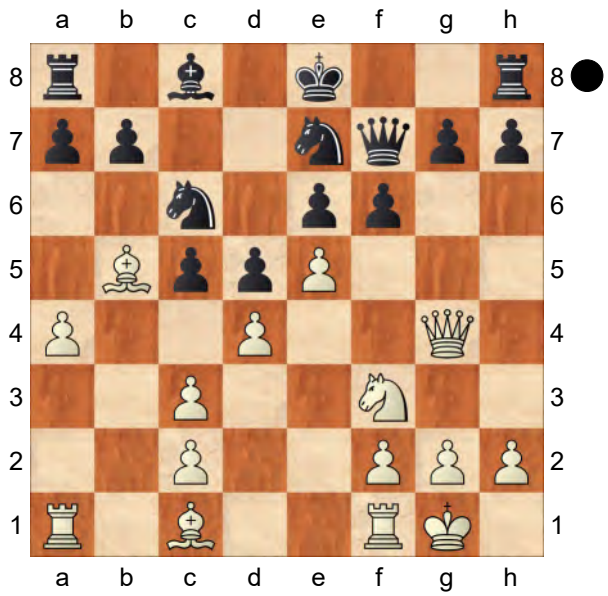


Kapnisis,Spyridon: '

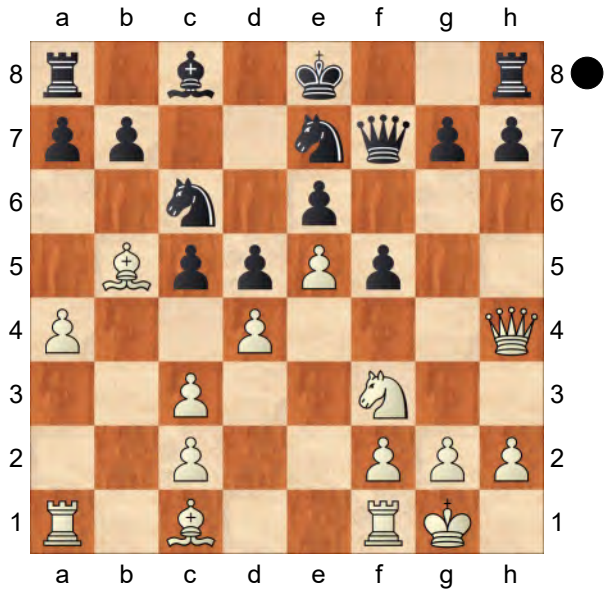
(Diagram)

' **11...f5!N** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Here Rapport shows us an important idea for black. White's plan of playing d5 and shutting down Bb7 is a lot less dangerous after 11... Be4!'

[11...c4∓ 12.Ba3 Bd7 13.Rfe1 f5 14.Qh4∓ h6∓ 15.Rab1? 0-0-0-+ 16.Qf4!? g5 17.Qc1 g4]

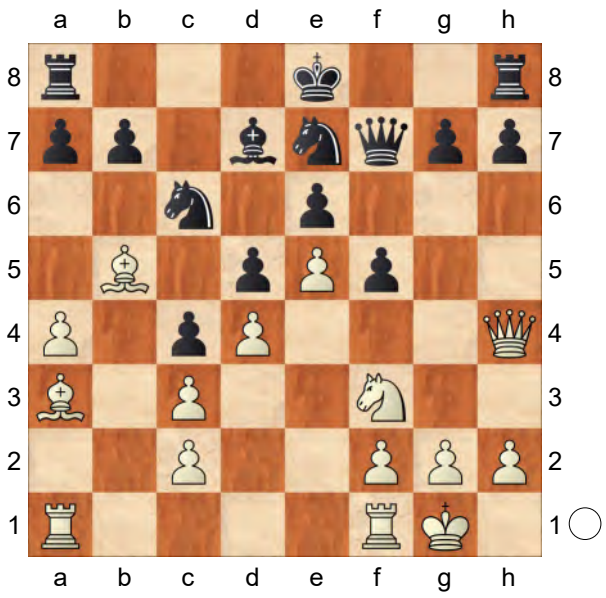


12.Qh4 Kapnisis,Spyridon: '?!' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'White plays a normal looking move protecting f2 and preparing 0-0-0 and f3 but he will not be in time to execute his plan.'Kapnisis, Spyridon: '

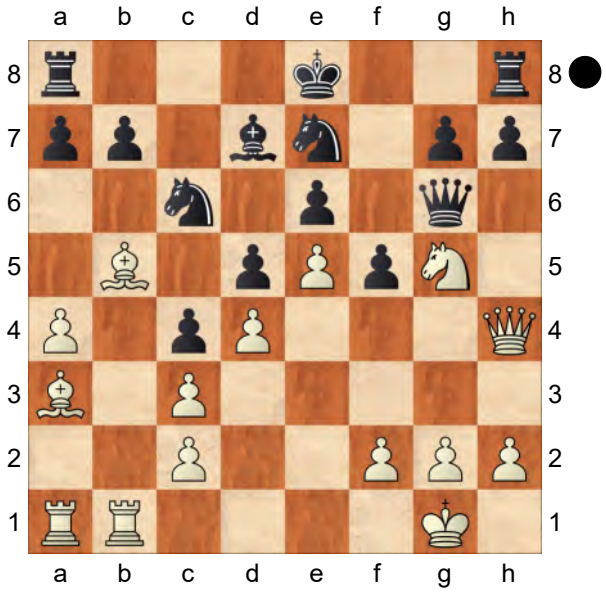


' **12...c4!** Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Excellent handling of the position by Rapport. Black is threatening g4 making it very difficult for white to mobilize his kingside pieces.' **13.Ba3 Bd7** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' Kapnisis,Spyridon: '

(Diagram)

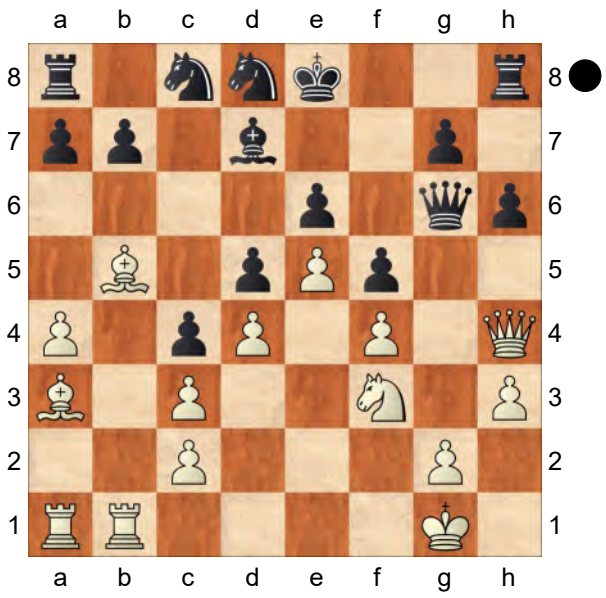


' **14.Ng5** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '?!' **14...Qg6** **15.Rfb1** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '?' Kapnisis,Spyridon: '

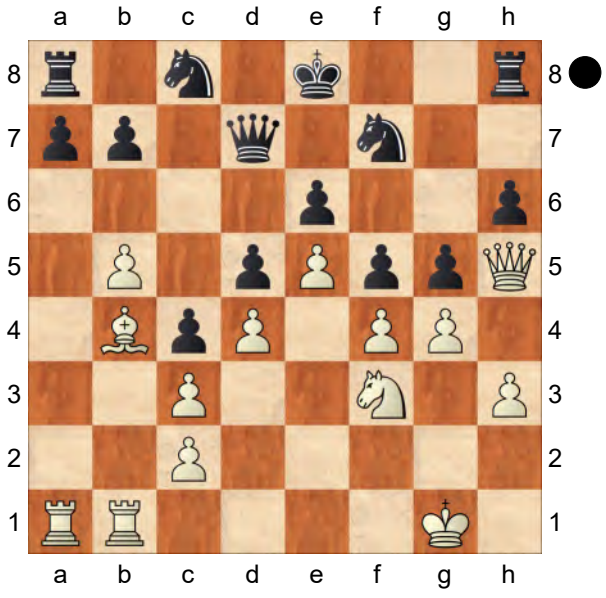


' **15...Nc8** Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Rapport decides to stop f3 although it was not necessary. By using prophylaxis he puts white in a difficult spot to find a plan to untangle his kingside.' **16.f4?!** **h6∓** **17.Nf3?!** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '?' **17...Nd8** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' **18.h3** Diagram

(Diagram)



18...Qf7!∓ Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Stops white from playing f3.' **19.Bd6** **Bxb5** Kapnisis, Spyridon: ' ∓'Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Black is clearly in total control of the position and soon white will have problems defending his weak pawn on h3.' **20.axb5?!** **Qd7** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' **21.Bb4** **Nf7-+** **22.Qh5** **g5!** Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'Choosing activity over pawn grabbing is a lot stronger since white is in no position to react.' **23.g4** Kapnisis, Spyridon: '



' **23...fxg4** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' **24.Nh2 gxf4** Kapnisis,Spyridon: '!' **25.Nxg4? Kd8** Kapnisis,Spyridon: 'An excellent game by Rapport who outplayed his strong, young opponent. A model game for black in this line.' **26.Nf6 Qc7 27.h4 b6 28.Kf2 a5 29.bxa6 Na7-+ 30.Rg1!?**
0-1

D35
□ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi 2730**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2722**
Tata Steel India Blitz (11) 04.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 b6
[4...Be7 5.b3 *(5.Nc3 0-0 6.b3 c5 7.Bb2 Nc6 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.a3 Bg4 12.Be2 d4 13.b4 Bb6 14.b5 Bxf3 15.Bxf3 Ne5 16.Bxb7 Rb8 17.Bxd4 Bxd4 18.exd4 Qa5+ 19.Kf1 Qxb5+* 4.e3 c5 5. ♗d3 ♘f6 34222 (2311)-Wu,Z (2252) (izt) 44/266 1987 (7.3) ½-½ *)* 5...0-0 6.Bb2 c5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.dxc5 Nd7 9.c6 bxc6 10.Nbd2 a5 11.e4 N5f6 12.Qc2 a4 13.Qxc6 Qa5 14.Qxa4 Qxa4 15.bxa4 Nc5 16.Bb5 Nxa4 17.Bd4 Bd7 18.Bxd7 Nxd7 19.Ke2 10.Ba3 b6 11.ba5 Nh5 (2766)-Buchicchio,G (2770) 60/486 Cappelle la Grande 1994 (13) ½-½]
5.Nc3 Bd6 6.cxd5N
[6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 Nbd7 8.Bd2 e5 9.0-0 exd4 10.Nxd4 Bb7 11.Nf5 0-0 12.Nxd6 cxd6 13.Rc1 Rc8 14.Bb5 a6 15.Bxd7 Qxd7 16.Qb3 Rc6 17.Ne2 Rfc8 18.Rxc6 Qxc6 19.f3 b5 20.Nd4 4 a3 Bb7 5 Nc3 d5 (1200)-Geier,E (ol) 121/184 2014 1-0]
6...exd5 7.Bb5+ is recently more successful than 7.Bd3.ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 7.Ld3. **7...c6 8.Bd3 0-0 9.0-0** Black has an edge. **9...Re8 10.Qc2 Bg4** 0.11/21
[10...Qe7 -0.30/23 is more appropriate.]
11.Be2N -0.61/24
[Vorgänger: 11.Bd2 -0.51/21 11.e3-e4 0.00 Nbd7 12.Ne2 -0.73/20 *(12.e4=* -0.24/19 *)* 12...c5 13.Bf5 Bxf3 14.gxf3 Nf8 15.f4 Ng6 16.Ng3 -1.72/21 *(16.Kh1∓* -0.54/21 *)* 16...cxd4-+ 17.Kh1 dxe3 18.fxe3 1-0 (63) Vidit,S (2710)-Wang,H (2722) Shusha 2022]
[11.e4= 0.11/21]
11...c5 -0.23/22 Black is more active.
[11...Nbd7∓ -0.61/24]
12.h3= Bh5 13.Rd1 And now d4xc5 would win. **13...Nc6 14.Qa4** Black must now prevent d4xc5. **14...Rc8! 15.Bd2 Bb8 16.Kf1 c4** 0.04/21
[16...Qd6∓ -0.50/22]
17.b3 Na5 0.52/20
[17...cxb3= 0.04/23 is superior. 18.Qxb3 Re6]
18.Rac1 Bg6 19.Be1 a6

(Diagram)

20.Ne5! Bf5 21.b4 Nb7 22.Qxa6 Nd6 23.b5 -0.44/23
[23.f3= -0.01/21 deserves consideration.]
23...Bc7 aiming for ...Rc8-a8. Black has compensation. **24.Qa3 Ra8 25.Qb2 Qc8** 0.87/22
[25...Nde4= 0.10/21]
26.Kg1 Be6 1.48/21
[Better is 26...Nde4± 0.58/18]
27.Bf1 0.44/23

[27.f3!± 1.48/21]

27...h5 0.81/22

[27...Nfe4± 0.44/23 feels stronger.]

28.a4 0.25/22

[White should try 28.f3± 0.81/22]

28...Nf5 0.95/20

[28...Nde4= 0.25/22 keeps the balance.]

29.Ra1± Bd6 30.Rdc1 Qc7 31.Nf3 Ne7 32.Ng5 Bf5 33.Qe2? -1.18/26

[33.g3± 0.72/24 and life is bright.]

33...Bg6? 0.73/24

[33...Bd3∓ -1.18/26 34.Qf3 Bh2+ 35.Kh1 Bxf1]

34.g3 h4 1.05/21 **35.g4 Bh2+**

(Diagram)

36.Kh1? -2.11/20 This move loses the game for White.

[36.Kg2!± 1.06/25]

36...Bd3-+ Deflection **37.Qf3** -3.43/23

[37.Nxd5 -2.12/24 might work better. Nexd5 38.Qxd3 cxd3 39.Rxc7 Bxc7 40.Bxd3]

37...Bxf1 38.a5 Bd6 39.a6 -3.40/24

[⌓39.e4 -2.24/21 Ng6 *(39...Rxa5 40.Rxa5 bxa5 41.e5∓)* 40.e5 Bxe5

41.dxe5 *(41.axb6? Qb7-+)* 41...Nxe5 *(41...Qxe5 42.Bd2-+)* 42.Qf4]

39...Qd7 40.Na4 Bc7 41.Bb4 Bd3

[41...Qxb5 42.Bxe7 Rxe7 43.Rxf1-+]

42.Bxe7 Qxe7

[42...Rxe7 43.Nc3-+]

43.Nc3 Qd6 44.Qg2 Against Qd6-h2+

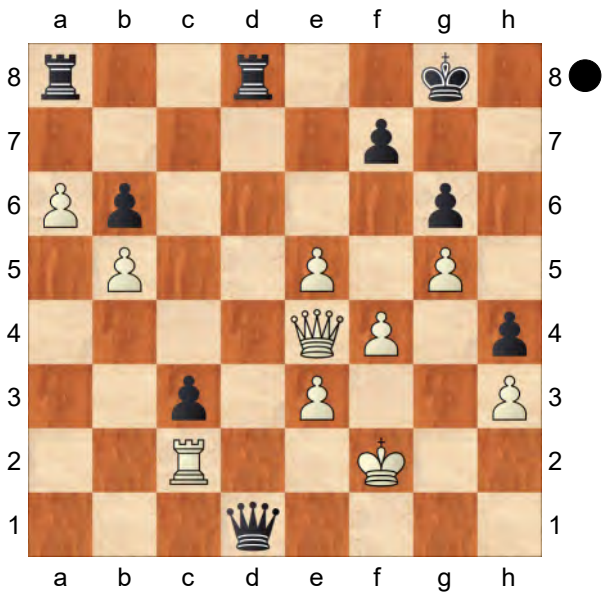
44...Bg6 45.Re1 Qd7 46.Nf3 Ne4 Deflection **47.Ne2 Qe7 48.Rab1 Nd6 49.Rb2 Bd3 50.Nc3 Be4 51.Nxe4 Nxe4 52.Rc1 Qa3 53.Rbc2 Qe7 54.g5 Qd7 55.Kg1 g6 56.Rb1 Nd6 57.Ne5 Qf5 58.Rcc1 Ne4 59.f4 Bxe5 60.dxe5 Qc8 61.Rd1 Nc3 62.Rbc1 Nxd1 63.Rxd1 c3 64.Qxd5 Qc7 65.Rc1 Red8 66.Qe4 Qd7 67.Rc2** -#17/17 Dodges Qd7-d2

[67.e6-+ -4.75/21 Qxb5 *(67...Qxe6? 68.Qxe6 fxe6 69.Rxc3-+)* 68.exf7+ Kxf7 69.Qb7+ Kg8 70.a7]

67...Qd1+ 68.Kf2

(Diagram)

Qxc2+!! -13.30/24 **69.Qxc2** Black is clearly winning. **69...Rd2+ 70.Qxd2 cxd2** Endgame. KR-KP **71.Ke2 Rd8**



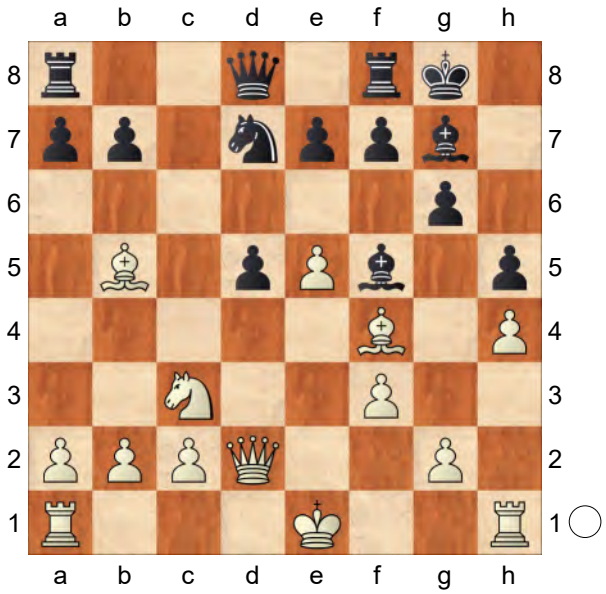
72.Kd1 Kf8 73.e4 Rd4 74.a7 Ra4
[74...Rxe4 75.a8Q+ *(75.a8B? Rxf4 76.Kxd2 Rf5-+)* 75...Kg7 76.Qxe4 Kf8 77.Qc6 *(77.Kxd2 Ke8 78.Qb7 Kf8 79.f5 Kg8 80.f6 Kh8 81.e6 Kh7 82.Qxf7+ Kh8 83.Qg7#)* 77...Kg8 78.Qc8+ *(78.Kxd2 Kh7 79.Qe8 Kg7 80.Qd8 Kh7 81.Qf8 f5 82.gxf6 g5 83.Qg7#)* 78...Kg7 79.Qe8 *(79.Kxd2 f5 80.exf6+ Kf7 81.Qd7+ Kf8 82.Qg7+ Ke8 83.Qe7#)* 79...Kh7 80.Qf8 *(80.Qxf7+ Kh8 81.f5 gxf5 82.g6 f4 83.Qh7#; 80.Kxd2 Kg7 81.Qd8 Kh7 82.Qf8 f5 83.gxf6 g5 84.Qg7#)* 80...f5 81.gxf6 g5 82.Qg7#]

75.Kxd2 Rxa7
[Not 75...Rxe4 76.a8Q+ *(76.a8B?* too greedy. *Rxf4 77.Ke3 Rb4-+)* 76...Kg7 77.Qxe4 Kf8 78.Qa8+ Ke7 79.Qc8 f5 80.exf6+ *(80.gxf6+ Kf7 81.Qd7+ Kf8 82.Qg7+ Ke8 83.Qe7#)* 80...Kf7 81.Qd7+ Kf8 82.Qg7+ Ke8 83.Qe7#]

76.Kd3 Ra3+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/ Black=0.37
0-1

A45
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **Giri,Anish** **2764**
Meltwater Tour Final rapid (5.1) 19.11.22
[TA]

1.d4 0 **Nf6** 0 **2.Bf4** 4 **g6** 3
[2...d5 3.e3 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Nbd2 Nh5 6.Be5 e6 7.c4 cxd4 8.cxd5 Qxd5 9.Bc4 Qd8 10.exd4 Be7 11.Qe2 0-0 12.0-0-0 Bd7 13.Kb1 Rc8 14.Bg3 b5 15.Bxb5 Nb4 16.Bc4 e5 17.Nxe5 Bf5+ 18.Ne4 Nf6 19.f3 Qb6 20.Rhe1 Nfd5 1-0 (38) Erigaisi,A (2728)-Giri,A (2764) chess24.com INT 2022]
3.Nc3 4 **d5** 1 **4.e3** 1 **Bg7** 2 **5.h4** 3 **h5** 1 **6.Nf3** 4 A45: Trompowsky Attack. **6...0-0** 10 **7.Qd2** 12 **c5** 19 **8.Ne5** 3 The position is equal. **8...Nc6** 19 The main line 8...Nc6 scores better than 8...cxd4. Die Hauptvariante 8...Sc6 punktet besser als 8...cxd4. **9.f3** 4 **cxd4** 1:14 **10.exd4** 1 **Bf5** 0 **11.Bb5** 6 **Nxe5** 17 **12.dxe5** 22 **Nd7** 2



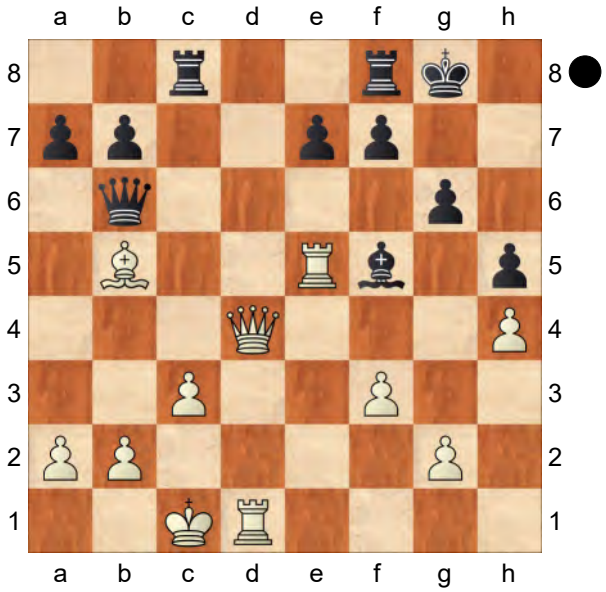
13.0-0-0N 3
[Predecessor: 13.Qxd5 Nb6 14.Qxd8 Rfxd8 15.0-0 Rd4 16.Bg5 Kf8

17.Rfe1 Rb4 18.a4 Rxb2 19.a5 ½-½ (45) Cuhendi,S (2419)-Karthikeyan,M (2630) Sitges 2021]

13...Nxe5 5:49 **14.Rhe1** 3 **d4N** 2:41

[Vorgänger: 14...Nc6 15.Bh6 Bxh6 16.Qxh6 e6 17.g4 hxg4 18.h5 Qf6 19.fxg4 Bxg4 20.Rg1 Ne5 1-0 (30) Erigaisi,A (2725)-Paravyan,D (2592) Chess.com INT 2022]

15.Bxe5 2 **Bxe5** 1 **16.Rxe5** 2 **dxc3** 1 **17.Qxc3** 0 **Qb6** 3 **18.Qd4** 1:54 **Rac8** 46 **19.c3** 1:15



Strongly threatening Qxb6. **19...Qxd4** 3 **20.Rxd4** 0 **Rc7** 13 **21.g4** 45 **hxg4** 2 **22.fxg4** 0 **Be6** 13 **23.a4** 1:12 **Kg7** 10 **24.h5** 1:27 **Rh8** 1:25 **25.Bd3** 1:11 **gxh5** 20 **26.gxh5** 0 **b6** 24 **27.Be2** 1:17 **Rc5** 59 **28.Re3** 13 **Rg5** 18 **29.b4** 11 **Kf6** 53 **30.Kd2** 1:37 **Rd5** 15

[30...Rg2=]

31.Rxd5± 16 **Bxd5** 0 Endgame KRB-KRB **32.c4** 1 **Bb7** 40 **33.a5** 27 **e5** 6 **34.Ra3** 44 **Rd8+** 46 **35.Kc3** 1:37 **Kg5** 6 **36.Ra1** 28 **Be4** 53 **37.axb6** 34 **axb6** 1 **38.Ra6** 8 **Rb8** 23 **39.Ra7** 24 **Rf8** 43 **40.Rd7** 36 **Kf4** 6 **41.h6** 25 **Bg6** 49

[41...Ke3!? 42.Bf1 f5±]

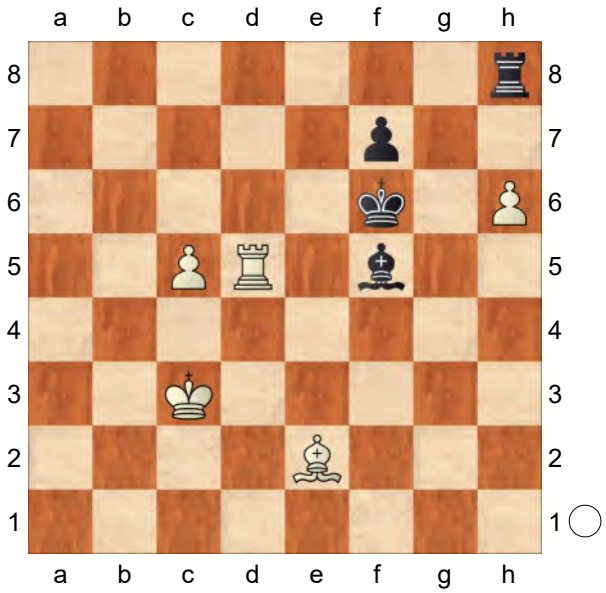
42.c5 16 **bxc5** 6 **43.bxc5** 0 **Bf5** 20 **44.Re7** 11 **Kg5** 11

[44...Rc8= keeps the balance.]

45.Rxe5± 8 And now Bd3 would win. White is more active. **45...Kf6?** 2 Loses the game.

[45...Kf4± is a better chance. 46.Kd4 Rh8]

46.Rd5+- 9 **Rh8** 3



47.Bd3! 32 **Bxd3** 27

[47...Be6+-]

48.Kxd3 0 Kd4 would kill now. KR-KR **48...Kg6** 0 **49.Rd6+** 1:52 White mates. **49...f6** 1 **50.c6** 2 **Rf8** 12 **51.Kd4** 34 **Kxh6** 12 **52.c7** 3 **Rc8** 1 **53.Rxf6+** 2 **Kg7** 0 **54.Rc6** 1 **Kf7** 0 **55.Kc5** 3 **Ke7** 8 **56.Kb6** 1 Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.46

1-0

A08

□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2856**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2728**

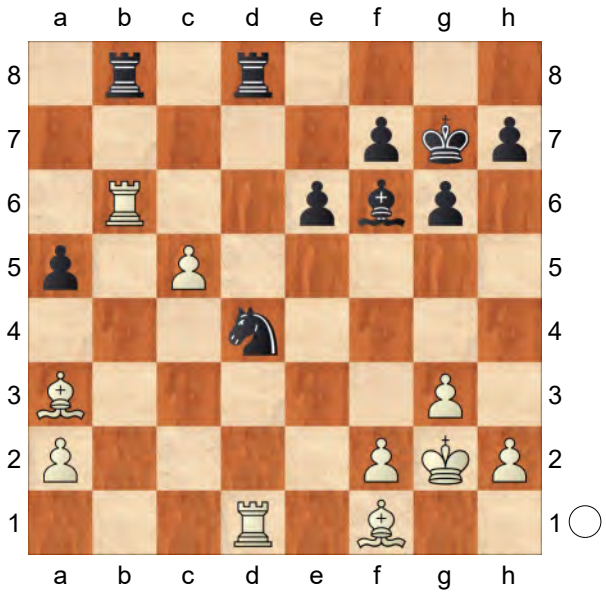
Aimchess Rapid KO (1.12) 18.10.2022

[Kitty Kat]

A08: King's Indian Attack

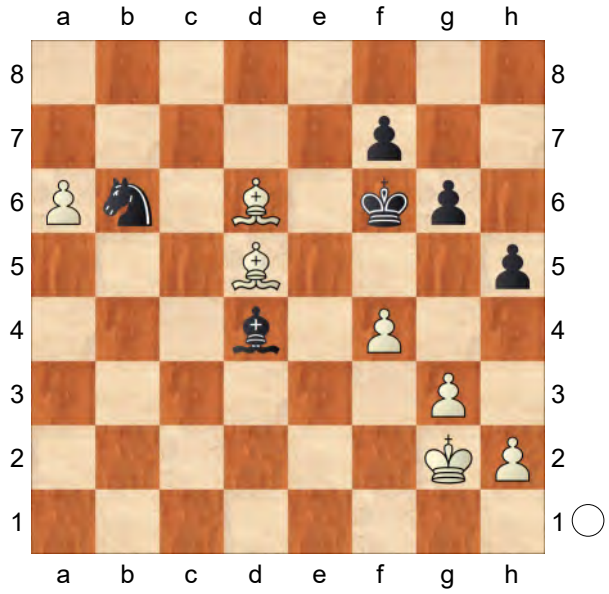
1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 c5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.0-0 g6

5.d4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Bg7 7.Nb3 Nc6 is currently scoring better than 7...0-0. wohl besser als 7...0-0. **8.Nc3** The position is equal. **8...e6! 9.e4**
[9.a4 0-0 10.a5 Nd7 11.e4 d4 12.Nb5 e5 13.c3 a6 14.Nd6 Qe7 15.Nxc8 Raxc8 16.cxd4 Nxd4 17.Nxd4 exd4 18.f4 Qb4 19.Qa4 Qxa4 20.Rxa4 Rc2 21.e5 Rfc8 22.Rxd4 Nxe5 23.fxe5 Rxc1 6.♗f4 ♘bd7 7.e3_52523 (2592)-Osnos,V (2795) EU-ch 12th Aix les Bains 2011 (7) ½-½]
9...d4 10.e5 dxc3 11.exf6N New and interesting.Theoretisch interessant.
[Predecessor: 11.Bxc6+ bxc6 12.Qxd8+ Kxd8 13.Bg5! aiming for Rfd1+.
A) 13...Ke7 14.Na5 cxb2 *(14...Ba6 15.Nxc6+ Kf8 16.exf6 cxb2 17.Rab1 Bxf1 18.Kxf1 h6 19.fxg7+ Kxg7 20.Bf4* #8 1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 g6 with c5-#8 1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 g6 with c5 # *)* 15.Rad1 Ke8 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.exf6 Ba6 18.c4 Rb8 19.f4 Rb6 20.Kf2 h6 21.Rd2 b1Q 22.Rxb1 Rxb1 23.Nxc6 #8 1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 g6 with c5-#8 1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 g6 with c5 #;
B) 13...cxb2 14.exf6 Bf8 15.Rad1+ Ke8 16.Rb1 Ba3 17.Rfe1 #8 1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 g6 with c5-#8 1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 g6 with c5 #;
C) 13...h6 14.exf6 hxg5 15.Rad1+ Kc7 16.fxg7 Rg8 17.bxc3 Rxg7 ½-½ (67) Matlakov,M (2710)-Vidit,S (2722) Budva 2019]
11...Bxf6 12.bxc3 Black should prevent Bxc6+. **12...0-0 13.Qf3 Bg7** 0.60/20
[13...Re8= 0.21/19]
14.Ba3!± Black must now prevent Rad1!
14...Re8 15.Rab1 -0.01/21
[15.Rfd1± 0.46/21 Qf6 16.Qxf6 Bxf6 17.Nc5]
15...Qf6 0.54/21
[15...e5= -0.01/21]
16.Qxf6 Bxf6 17.Rfd1 Bxc3 18.Nc5 Bf6 19.Nxb7 Bxb7 20.Rxb7 Nd4 1.06/23
[20...Ne5± 0.48/21]
21.c4 0.59/21
[White should try 21.Bc5± 1.06/23 Red8 22.Kf1 *(22.Rxa7? Ne2+ 23.Kf1 Nxg3+ 24.hxg3 Rxd1+ 25.Ke2 Rxa7-+)*]
21...Rac8 22.Bf1 White is more active.
[Much worse is 22.Rxa7?! Rxc4 23.h4 h6=]
22...Red8 23.Kg2 Inhibits Nf3.
[23.Rxa7? perishes. Nf3+ 24.Kg2 Rxd1-+]
23...a5 24.c5 Rb8 1.06/20
[24...g5± 0.63/21]
25.Rb6 0.32/21
[25.Ba6± 1.06/20]
25...Kg7? 1.85/22
[25...Nc2!± 0.32/21 26.Rxd8+ Rxd8]



Black cannot hold the game after this.
26.Ba6!+- e5 2.77/22

[⌓26...a4 1.72/20 27.Rc1 Be5]
27.Rdb1 Nc6 4.48/22
[27...Ra8 2.59/22 is a better defense. 28.c6 Ra7]
28.R1b5 Rxb6 29.cxb6 e4 30.Bc5 Rd2 31.b7 Nb8 32.Rxa5 Rd7 33.Bc4 Rxb7 34.Bd5 Repels Nc6. This pair of bishops is nice. **34...Rd7 35.Bxe4 Bd4 36.Bb4 Ra7 37.Rxa7 Bxa7** Endgame. KBB-KBN **38.a4 Kf6 39.Bd5 Na6 40.Bd6 Bb6 41.Bc4 Nc7 42.Bb4 Bd4 43.a5 h5 44.a6** White is clearly winning. **44...Ne8 45.f4 Nc7 46.Bd6 Na8** 7.23/26
[⌓46...Nxa6 4.51/24 47.Bxa6 g5]
47.Bd5 Nb6



48.a7!
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.36
1-0

D34
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Grandelius,Nils** **2660**
Sigeman & Co 28th_1796 (2) 05.05.2023
[Grandelius,Nils]

1.Nf3 Nf6 Preparing for such a talented player as Erigaisi is always a great enjoyment for me. He can play literally any opening with any colour, and is hard to predict. Still, I had a feeling he would play 1.e4, as he did against me in the same tournament last year. That time we played a Scotch, but this year I decided to see what he had in mind against the Najdorf.Sich auf einen so talentierten Spieler wie Erigaisi vorzubereiten, ist für mich immer ein großes Vergnügen. Er kann buchstäblich jede Eröffnung mit jeder Farbe spielen und ist schwer vorherzusagen. Dennoch hatte ich das Gefühl, dass er 1.e4 spielen würde, wie er es letztes Jahr im selben Turnier gegen mich getan hat. Damals spielten wir einen Schotten, aber dieses Jahr beschloss ich zu sehen, was er gegen Najdorf vorhatte. **2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 e6 4.c4 Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.d4** The old mainline has perhaps gone slightly out of fashion nowadays, but it's still very much a challenging approach and something I've played myself quite a bit with White.Die alte Hauptvariante ist heutzutage vielleicht etwas aus der Mode gekommen, aber es ist immer noch ein sehr herausfordernder Ansatz und etwas, das ich selbst ziemlich oft mit Weiß gespielt habe. **6...c5 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Nc3 Nc6!?** An rare and old line. My intention was to take Erigaisi out of his preparation as early as possible. The only downside is that there are

good reasons why this line isn't popular anymore...Eine seltene und alte Variante. Meine Absicht war es, Erigaisi so früh wie möglich aus seiner Vorbereitung zu nehmen. Der einzige Nachteil ist, dass es gute Gründe gibt, warum diese Variante nicht mehr populär ist... **9.Bg5 Be6** This is the point of the line. It looks strange to lose a tempo so early, but Black's idea is to clarify the situation in the center immediately, and then get castled.Das ist der Sinn der Variante. Es sieht seltsam aus, so früh ein Tempo zu verlieren, aber die Idee von Schwarz ist es, die Situation im Zentrum sofort zu klären und dann zu rochieren. **10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.Nxd5?!** Played after a long think. It was clear Erigaisi was out of book by now.Gespielt nach langem Nachdenken. Es war klar, dass Erigaisi jetzt nicht mehr im Buch war. **12...Qxb2?!** This was critized in the commentary room by L'Ami and Brynell, and for good reason. I obviously understood that playing this and ...Bxf5 next move is losing a tempo, but I didn't like the alternative.Dies wurde im Kommentarraum von L'Ami und Brynell kritisiert, und das aus gutem Grund. Ich habe natürlich verstanden, dass man mit diesem Zug und ...Lxf5 im nächsten Zug ein Tempo verliert, aber die Alternative gefiel mir nicht. **13.Nc7 Rad8 14.Qc1** I've lost a tempo, but despite that Black is doing pretty well. The eternal knight on e5 is simply too strong, and even with the hook on h6, I can still castle.Ich habe ein Tempo verloren, aber trotzdem steht Schwarz ziemlich gut. Der ewige Springer auf e5 ist einfach zu stark, und selbst mit dem Haken auf h6 kann ich noch rochieren. **14...Qxc1 15.Raxc1 Bb6 16.Nxe6?** An interesting part of the game. This move looked like the most natural to both me and my opponent, but it turns out it's already a rather serious mistake, as the tempo I gained can be used to full effect.Ein interessanter Teil der Partie. Dieser Zug erschien sowohl mir als auch meinem Gegner als der natürlichste, aber es stellt sich heraus, dass es bereits ein ziemlich schwerwiegender Fehler ist, da ich das gewonnene Tempo voll ausnutzen kann. **16...fxe6!** Already threatening the double attack Qb6.Droht bereits mit dem Doppelangriff Db6. **17.Rc4** Stepping out of tactical threat, but it loses an important tempo as well.Geht aus der taktischen Drohung, aber es geht auch ein wichtiges Tempo verloren. **17...h6!** Another very strong move. Now Bd6 will be another tempo on the next move. Ein weiterer sehr starker Zug. Jetzt wird Ld6 im nächsten Zug ein weiteres Tempo bedeuten.

[17...Nd4 18.Nxd4 Rxd4 19.Rxd4 when I actually believe Black is fine, due to the potentially very strong bishop pair.zu seltsamen Positionen führt, wobei ich eigentlich glaube, dass Schwarz aufgrund des potenziell sehr starken Läuferpaares gut dasteht. Bxd4 20.Bxb7 Bb6 *(20...Rb8 21.Ba6 Kf7 22.Rc1 Ke7 23.Rc7+ Kd8 24.Rc4 Rb1+ 25.Kg2 Rd1 26.Rc6)* 21.e3 Rd8 22.Rc1 Rd6 23.Kg2 Kf7 24.Kf3 Kf6 25.Rc4]

[17...Rf6 18.Ng5 h6 19.Ne4 Rf5 20.Bh3 Re5 21.e3]

[17...e5 18.e3 Rf6 *(18...Rd3 19.Ng5 Rd2 20.a4 h6 21.Ne4 Ra2 22.Nc3 Rc2 23.Be4 Rd2 24.Bxc6*

bxc6 25.Rxc6 Rc2 26.Nd5 Rxc6 27.Ne7+ Kf7 28.Nxc6) 19.Ng5 h6 20.Bxc6 *(20.Ne4 Rff8 21.h4 Rd3 22.Rb1 Rfd8 23.Bf3 Ra3 24.Rb2)* 20...Rxc6 *(20...hxg5 21.Bxb7 Rd2 22.a4)* 21.Rxc6 bxc6 22.Ne4]

[17...Rd6 18.h4 h6

A) 19.Bh3

A1) 19...Rf6 20.Re4 Kf7 21.g4 *(21.Kg2 Ke7 22.Rb1 Rd5 23.Rb2 Kd6 24.e3)* 21...Ke7 22.g5 Rf7 23.Kg2 Kd7 24.Rb1 hxg5 25.hxg5 Re7 26.Bg4 Rd5 27.e3;

A2) 19...Rfd8 20.Kg2 Kf7 21.Re4 Bc5 22.Rc1;

B) 19.Rfc1 e5 20.Re4 Re8 21.e3 Kf7 22.h5 Bd8 23.Bf1 Bf6 24.Bb5 a6 25.Bxc6 Rxc6 26.Rxc6 bxc6 27.Ra4 Ra8 28.Nd2 Ke7 29.Nc4 Ra7 30.Ra5]

[17...Rd5 18.h4 h6 19.Bh3

A) 19...Re8 20.Re4 Kf7 21.e3 *(21.Rb1 Re7 22.e3 Ba5 23.Rc1)* 21...Re7 22.Rc1 Bc5 23.Rf4+ Ke8 24.e4;

B) 19...Rf6 20.Kg2 Kf7 21.Re4 Ke7 22.Rb1 *(22.Rc1 Kd6 23.e3)* 22...Kd6 23.Rb2 e5 24.e3 Kc7 25.Rc2 Bc5 26.Nd2]

18.Re4?!

[An important point is that Ein wichtiger Punkt ist, dass 18.h4 is met strongly bywird stark mit Rf6! winning further time.mit beantwortet wird, was weitere Zeit gewinnt. 19.Rfc1 is more popular, but growing up on Polugaevsky's games in the Sicilian, I have a deep love for an uncontested knight on e5! ist populärer, aber da ich mit Polugaevskys Partien im Sizilianer aufgewachsen bin, habe ich eine tiefe Liebe für einen unangefochtenen Springer auf e5! Kf7!? 20.Re4 Rd5 is another sharp line, leading to strange positions after the semi-forced line ist eine weitere scharfe Variante, die nach der halb erzwungenen Variante 21.Bh3 Bc5 22.Kg2]

18...Rf6

[18...Rfe8 19.e3 Rd6 This is what bothered me. d6 is hanging and the knights are looking scary.Das ist es, was mich gestört hat. d6 hängt und die Springer sehen furchterregend aus. *(19...Bc5 20.Rc1* Trying to keep my e5-square, but the queen is not a good a blockading piece.Ich versuche, mein e5-Feld zu behalten, aber die Dame ist keine gute Blockadefigur. *b6! 21.Bf1 Re7!* gives White slightly the better ending due to weak d6-pawn. This was one of the lines that bothered me most in my preparation, but firstly I thought White's edge is not that big, and more importantly that it was unlikely White would play like this. gibt Weiß aufgrund des schwachen d6-Bauern das leicht bessere Endspiel. Dies war eine der Varianten, die mich in meiner Vorbereitung am meisten beunruhigt haben, aber erstens dachte ich, dass der Vorteil von Weiß nicht so groß ist, und zweitens, dass es unwahrscheinlich ist, dass Weiß so spielen würde. *22.Bb5!?* This is one of the critical lines, where to be honest I don't believe Black is quite equalizing, but it's also a move I find very unlikely to be played by an unprepared opponent.Dies ist eine der kritischen Varianten, bei der ich ehrlich gesagt nicht glaube, dass Schwarz wirklich ausgleichen kann,

aber es ist auch ein Zug, bei dem ich es sehr unwahrscheinlich finde, dass er von einem unvorbereiteten Gegner gespielt wird. *Na5 23.Ne5 Rd2 24.Ra4* Followed by O-O-O gives White a dangerous initiative. Gefolgt von O-O-O gibt Weiß eine gefährliche Initiative.*)* 20.h4! However, after this move, that I underestimated, things are working out well for Black.Aber nach diesem Zug, den ich unterschätzt habe, laufen die Dinge gut für Schwarz. Bd8 21.Rb1 b6 22.Bf1∓ And Qg2 is not possible due to Qe1 with mate! Und Dg2 ist aufgrund von De1 mit Matt nicht möglich! Bf6! The best move. White really must challenge the monster knight on e5.Der beste Zug. Weiß muss den Monsterspringer auf e5 wirklich herausfordern. 23.Bb5]

19.e3

[19.h4 Rd5 20.Rc1-+ White can resign! Weiß kann aufgeben! Rb5 21.Bh3! is outright bad.ist schlichtweg schlecht. Kf7 is objectively better, with an unclear position.objektiv besser ist, mit einer unklaren Position. 22.Rd1 Probably still the best move, but not the idea of Rg1.Wahrschein lich immer noch der beste Zug, aber nicht die Idee von Tg1. Ke7 The obvious move, but I was afraid of Der offensichtliche Zug, aber ich hatte Angst vor 23.Rd2!? Rb4 This was the main move I considered, but it looked too risky for me. Das war der Hauptzug, den ich in Erwägung gezogen habe, aber er erschien mir zu riskant. 24.Rxb4 followed by Be2 or h3 next. The engines are claiming Black is still OK, but I didn't like it.gefolgt von Le2 oder h3 als nächstes. Die Engines behaupten, dass Schwarz immer noch OK ist, aber mir gefiel das nicht. Nxb4 25.Kg2 Rf8 26.Rb2 Nc6! is the key move to relieve the tension. ist der Schlüsselzug, um die Spannung zu lösen. 27.e3 Rd8∞ 28.Nd2! A typical Sicilian shot, but I thought White was doing well. Ein typischer sizilianischer Schlag, aber ich dachte, Weiß steht gut.]

19...Kf7!

[19...Bc5! I heavily misevaluated this. Ich habe das völlig falsch eingeschätzt. 20.Rb1 b6! It turns out that this is simply great for Black! All my pieces are soon into the attack, whereas Rg1 and Bf1 are doing nothing. Es stellt sich heraus, dass dies einfach großartig für Schwarz ist! Alle meine Figuren sind bald im Angriff, während Tg1 und Lf1 nichts tun. 21.Kf1]

20.Rb1!? A good practical try, but of course there isn't enough for the rook. Ein guter praktischer Versuch, aber es reicht natürlich nicht für den Turm.

20...Rd5 21.Kf1 Ke7 22.Ke2 Necessary as Qxb2# was a threat, but now my rook can join the defences. Notwendig, da Dxb2# eine Drohung war, aber jetzt kann mein Turm die Verteidigung verstärken. **22...Kd6**

23.Rg4

[23.Rb2 Ke7 24.Nd2 This looked annoying to meDas sah für mich ärgerlich aus]

23...Rf7 Making sure I always have squares for my king on the g-file. Stellt sicher, dass ich immer Felder für meinen König auf der g-Linie habe.

24.Rb2 A sign of desperation for White.

Now Black is just a rook up, and the game should finish within very few moves. Instead, I relaxed a bit too early, and immediately allowed an unnecessary tactic.Ein Zeichen der Verzweiflung für Weiß. Jetzt ist Schwarz einfach einen Turm im Vorteil, und die Partie sollte innerhalb weniger Züge beendet sein. Stattdessen habe ich etwas zu früh entspannt und sofort eine unnötige Taktik zugelassen.

[24.Nd2 Rxd2+ 25.Kxd2 was still the more normal route, with a slower game although I am still a fan of Black's chances.war immer noch der normalere Weg, mit einem langsameren Spiel, obwohl ich immer noch ein Fan von Schwarz' Chancen bin. Rxf2+!? At first I wanted this move, but missed an important idea Zuerst wollte ich diesen Zug, aber ich habe eine wichtige Idee übersehen]

24...Ne5?? 25.Nxe5! For some reason I had completely overlooked this resource. Aus irgendeinem Grund hatte ich diese Ressource völlig übersehen. **25...Rxe5!** Despite the blunder it turns out my position is still winning. Very lucky! Trotz des Fehlers zeigt sich, dass meine Position immer noch gewonnen ist.. Sehr viel Glück! **26.Rd2+ Kc7 27.Rg6 Ref5 28.f4!?** A good practical decision. The attack clearly no longer exists, so White hopes to get some saving chances in the ending .Eine gute praktische Entscheidung. Der Angriff ist eindeutig nicht mehr vorhanden, so dass Weiß hofft, im Endspiel einige Rettungschancen zu bekommen. **28...R5f6 29.Rxf6 gxf6** Eliminating all counterplay .Eliminierung jeglichen Gegenspiels.

[29...Rxf6 30.Rc2+⇄ Kb8 31.Bh3⩲]

30.Bh3 Re7 31.Kf3 Bc5

[31...Rd7!? This was my main alternative to 16.Be1Das war meine Hauptalternative zu 16.Le1 32.Re2 Kd6 33.e4! For a Sicilian player such moves comes almost automatically, but here the engine agrees that it's even the only move!Für einen Sizilian-Spieler kommt ein solcher Zug fast automatisch, aber hier stimmt die Engine zu, dass es sogar der einzige Zug ist! Ke7 34.Kg4! This is highly important, and took me sime time to spot. It's imperative to be able to meet Bh6 with either ...g6 or ...Bf8. If I avoid getting mated immediately, the counterplay will be incredibly strong. Das ist sehr wichtig, und ich habe einige Zeit gebraucht, um es zu erkennen. Man muss unbedingt in der Lage sein, Lh6 entweder mit ...g6 oder ...Lf8 zu begegnen. Wenn ich es vermeide, sofort matt gesetzt zu werden, wird das Gegenspiel unglaublich stark sein.]

32.e4 e5?! The first hesitant step. In time trouble I did not grasp the cleanest idea. Der erste zögerliche Schritt. In Zeitnot habe ich die sauberste Idee nicht erfasst. **33.Bf5 exf4 34.gxf4 Rg7 35.Bg4 b5 36.Rd5 Kb6?!** A step in the wrong direction. Basically I was waiting for move 40, but White can improve in the meantime.Ein Schritt in die falsche Richtung. Im Grunde genommen habe ich auf den 40. Zug gewartet, aber Weiß kann sich in der Zwischenzeit verbessern. **37.Rh5 Rh7 38.Be6** A debatable decision. The pawn turned out to be a big weakness in the game, but without any counterplay White would also have lost in the long run. Eine fragwürdige Entscheidung. Der

Bauer erwies sich als große Schwäche in der Partie, aber ohne Gegenspiel hätte Weiß auf lange Sicht auch verloren. **38...a5 39.Rf5 Bd4 40.Rd5 Bc3** Reaching move 40 I finally hit on the corrcect plan. The king is headed towards the kingside, to attack the h- and f-pawns.Im 40. Zug kam ich endlich auf den richtigen Plan. Der König geht zum Königsflügel, um die h- und f-Bauern anzugreifen. **41.Bd7 b4 42.Ba4 Ka6 43.Rh5 Kb6** Now it's over, as my king finally enters the game.Jetzt ist es vorbei, denn mein König kommt endlich ins Spiel. **44.h4 Rh8 45.Bb3 Rh7 46.Kg4 Ra7 47.Ba4**

[47.Rxh6!? is a funny idea I briefly considered during the game ist eine lustige Idee, die ich während der Partie kurz in Betracht gezogen habe a4 48.Bd5 b3! Else White loses material.Andernfalls verliert Weiß Material. 49.Bxb3 axb3! 50.axb3 Kc5 51.h5 Kd4 52.Rxf6 Kxe4=]

47...Rg7+ 48.Kf5

[48.Kf3? too slow for White. zu langsam für Weiß. Rh7-+ 49.Ke3 An odd way to play with the bishop stuck on h4, but g5 will be coming on the next move.Eine merkwürdige Spielweise mit dem auf h4 festsitzenden Läufer, aber g5 wird im nächsten Zug kommen.]

48...Rg2 49.Bb3 a4 Finally starting to hunt down the queenside pawns. It's over. Endlich beginnt die Jagd auf die Bauern am Damenflügel. Das war's.

50.Bxa4 Rxa2 51.Bb3 Ra3

[51...Ra5+ 52.Kg6 Rxh5 53.Kxh5 Bd2 54.Kxh6-+ The final fork, winning a lot of materialDie letzte Gabel, die eine Menge Material gewinnt Bxf4+ 55.Kg6-+ Be5 56.h5-+ followed by Re8, and then either Ne3 immediately or Bf4+ first. White is simply not in time to defend.gefolgt von Te8, und dann entweder sofort Se3 oder erst Lf4+. Weiß ist einfach nicht in der Zeit, sich zu verteidigen.]

52.Bd5 b3 53.Bxb3 Rxb3 54.Rxh6 Kc7 55.h5 Rb5+ 56.Ke6 Rb6+ 57.Kf5

[57.Kd5 20.b3 is very similar. 20.b3 ist sehr ähnlich. Rd6+ A surprising tactical idea that I don't think I have ever seen before. The rook is hanging on g5, and if White takes on e3, then another fork appears. Eine überraschende taktische Idee, die ich, glaube ich, noch nie gesehen habe. Der Turm hängt auf g5, und wenn Weiß auf e3 nimmt, entsteht eine weitere Gabel.]

57...Rb5+ 58.Kg6 Bd2 wins the h-pawn. gewinnt den h-Bauern.

[58...Rb4! Is a key move, both defending the rook and threatening Qxe1. ist ein Schlüsselzug, der sowohl den Turm verteidigt als auch mit Dxe1 droht.]

59.Rh7+ Kd8 The h-pawn is never dangerous, for instanceDer h-Bauer ist nie gefährlich, zum Beispiel

[59...Kd6 60.Rf7]

60.f5 Rb4 and it won't get any further und weiter kommt er nicht. **61.h6 Rxe4! 62.Rg7 Bxh6**

[62...Rg4+-+ Something like this, or any other move, just leaves me a rook up. So etwas wie dieser oder ein anderer Zug belässt mich einfach mit einem Turm mehr. 63.Kh5]

63.Kxh6! The best try, trying to get some counterplay on the queenside as well. Black is still winning, but with the king on h5 it would be much smoother.

Der beste Versuch, auch am Damenflügel etwas Gegenspiel zu bekommen. Schwarz gewinnt immer noch, aber mit dem König auf h5 wäre es viel glatter. **63...Ra4!** still the right way! immer noch der richtige Weg! **64.Kg6!** was more or less immediately winning. Once the king reaches h5 or g5, it will also reach g4, when the f5-pawn won't survive for long.war mehr oder weniger sofort gewonnen. Sobald der König h5 oder g5 erreicht, wird er auch g4 erreichen, wo der f5-Bauer nicht lange überleben wird. **64...Ke8 65.Rb7 Ra6**

[65...Kf8! 66.Rb8+ Ke7]

66.Kg7-+ Rc6 67.Rb8+! Ke7 68.Rb1 followed by just moving the f8-rook. gefolgt von einem einfachen Zug des f8-Turms.

[68.Rf8 looks like a fancy way to win, but it doesn't work.sieht nach einer schicken Methode aus, um zu gewinnen, aber sie funktioniert nicht. Rc1 69.Rxf6 If White had to move the queen now, it would be an easy win for Black, butWenn Weiß jetzt die Dame ziehen müsste, wäre es ein leichter Sieg für Schwarz, aber]

68...Ra6 69.Re1+ Kd8 70.Kf7! Kd7 71.Rd1+ A key line where White has no way to put pressure on the h4-bishop. Eine wichtige Variante, in der Weiß keine Möglichkeit hat, den h4-Läufer unter Druck zu setzen. **71...Kc7 72.Ke7 0-1**

E44

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**

■ **Giri,Anish** **2764**

Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (5.1)

[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 15min+10sec E44: Nimzo-Indian: Rubinstein: 4...b6 5 Ne2

1.d4 0 **Nf6** 0 **2.c4** 4 **e6** 3 **3.Nc3** 4 **Bb4** 1 **4.e3** 1 **b6** 2 **5.Nge2** 3 **Ne4** 1 **6.Qc2** 4 **Bb7** 10 **7.a3** 12 **Bxc3+** 19 **8.Nxc3** 3 **Nxc3** 19 **9.Qxc3** 4 **d6** 1:14 **10.b3** 1 **Qh4** 0 **11.Bb2** 6 **Be4** 17 The position is equal. **12.Qd2** -0.01/20 22

[12.Rd1⩲ 0.36/16]

12...g5!= 2 **13.h3** 3 **g4** 5:49 **14.0-0-0** -0.28/20 3

[⩌14.c5! 0.28/17 Rg8 15.cxd6 cxd6 16.d5 Bxd5 17.e4]

14...Rg8 2:41 **15.Qe2N** -0.50/19 2

[15.g3= -0.01/18 deserves consideration. Qh6 *(15...Qf6 16.Rh2 h5 17.hxg4 hxg4 18.Bd3 Bxd3 19.Qxd3 Nd7* Walker,R *)* 16.Rh2]

15...Qh5 0.01/18 1

[15...Nd7∓ -0.50/19]

16.Rg1 -0.65/19 2

[16.Qd2= 0.01/18]

16...Nd7∓ 1 **17.Qe1** 0

[But not 17.hxg4? Qh2 18.f3 Qxg1-+]

17...gxh3 3 **18.Be2** 1:54 **Qh6** 46 **19.gxh3** 1:15 **0-0-0** 3 **20.Rg4** -1.61/19 0

[20.h4∓ -0.92/18 keeps fighting.]

20...f5-+ 13 **21.Rxg8** 45 **Rxg8** 2 **22.h4** -2.18/18 0

[22.c5∓ -1.47/17 was called for.]

22...Rg2 13

[22...Qxh4 23.f3 Qxe1 24.Rxe1=]

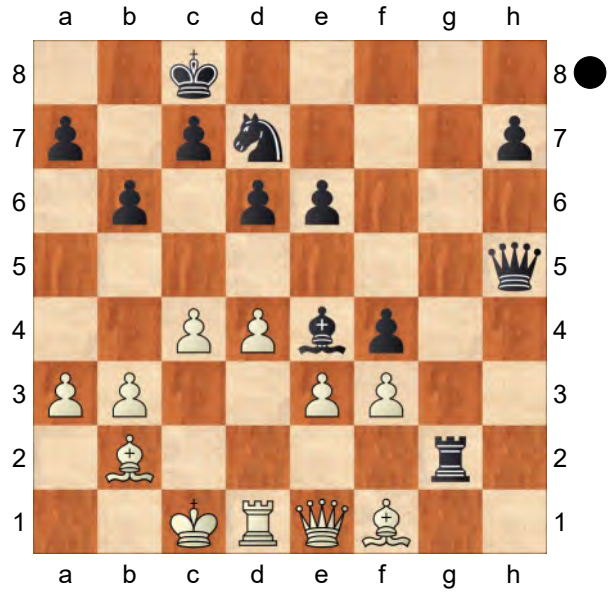
23.h5 1:12 **f4** 10 **24.f3?** -3.94/19 1:27

[24.exf4 -2.37/20 Qxf4+ 25.Rd2]

24...Qxh5 1:25 **25.Bf1?** -#16/18 1:11

[25.exf4-+ -3.72/20 Bxf3 26.Bxf3

Qxf3 27.Qc3 Qxf4+ 28.Kb1]

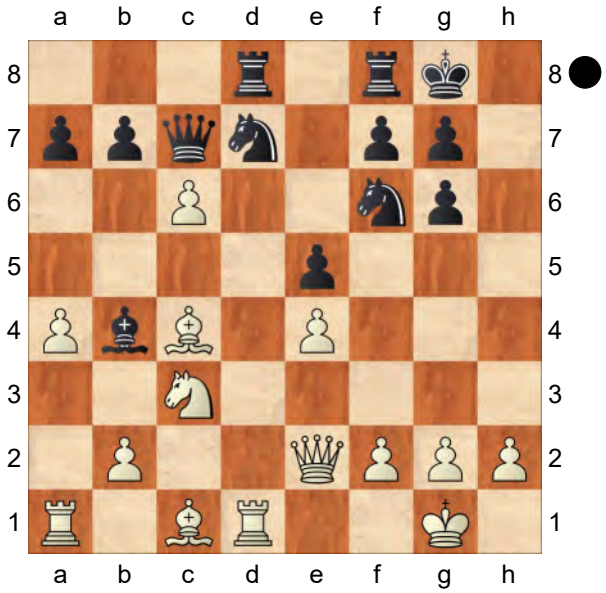


25...Rc2+ 20 White did not feel at home in the position after the opening.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.80/ Black=0.08 (flawless) . Loss on time!?
[25...Bxf3 26.Bxg2 Bxg2 27.exf4= Discovered Attack]
1-0

D19

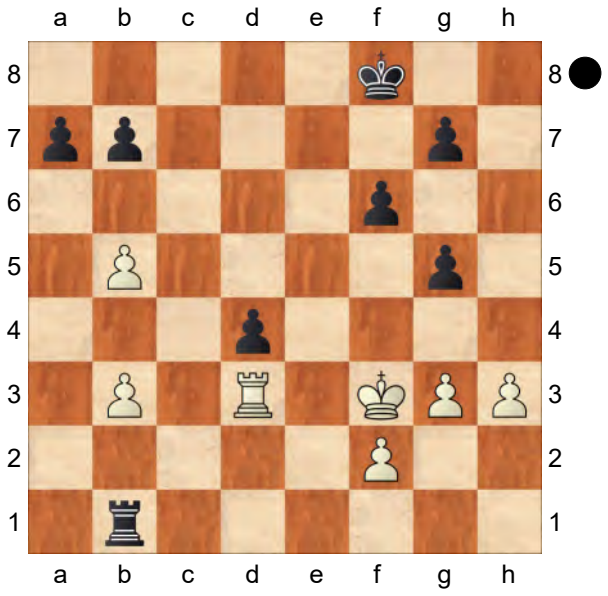
□ **Giri,Anish** **2764**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (5.2)
[TA]

Rapid 15min+10sec **1.d4** 0 **d5** 0 **2.c4** 2 **c6** 2 **3.Nf3** 5 **Nf6** 2 **4.Nc3** 1 **dxc4** 3 **5.a4** 2 **Bf5** 2 **6.e3** 1 **e6** 3 **7.Bxc4** 0 **Bb4** 1 **8.0-0** 1 **0-0** 2 **9.Qe2** 1 **Bg6** 1 **10.Ne5** 1 **Nbd7** 2 **11.Nxg6** 2 **hxg6** 0 **12.Rd1** 1 **Qc7!** 12 is currently scoring better than 12...Qa5.is more profitable than 12...Qa5 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 12...Da5. **13.e4** 4 D19: Slav Defence: 5 a4 Bf5 6 e3: Main line with 9 Qe2. **13...e5!** 2 **14.d5** 1 **Rad8!?** 26 Exploring less charted territory .A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.
15.dxc6 18

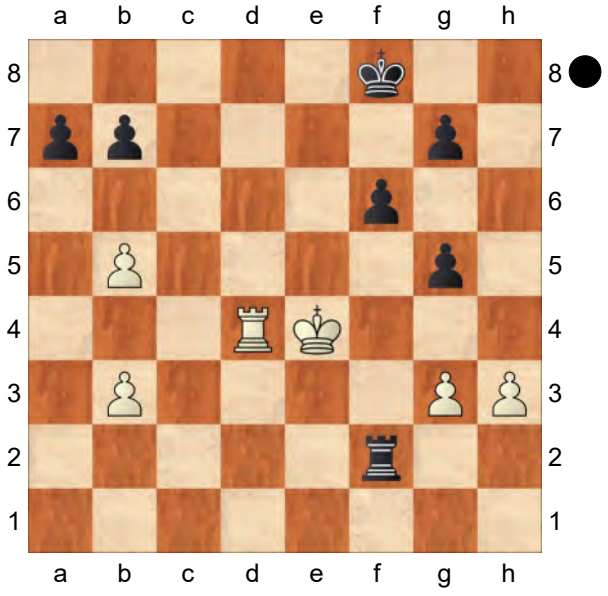


White has an edge. **15...Bxc3N** 4
[Predecessor: Vorgänger: 15...bxc6 16.Qc2 Qa5 17.Na2 Be7 18.b4 Qc7 19.a5 c5 20.Bg5 Nb8 21.b5 Rd4 22.Bxf6 Bxf6 0-1 (46) Kashlinskaya,A (2494) -Gunina,V (2421) Caleta 2021 0-1 (46) Kashlinskaya,A (2494)-Gunina,V (2421) Caleta 2021]
16.cxd7 3:30 **Bd4** 2 **17.Bg5** 23 **Qxd7** 55 **18.h3** 1:03 **Rc8** 38 **19.Be3** 3:10 This bishop pair is nice. **19...Nxe4** 1:15
20.Bxd4 23 **exd4** 0 **21.Qxe4** 1
[21.Qd3= remains equal.]
21...Rxc4∓ 2 **22.b3** 0 **Rb4** 34 **23.Rd3** 13 **Re8** 50 **24.Qf4** 6 **Qd5** 1:29 **25.Rc1** 7 **g5** 38
[25...a5 with more complications. 26.Rc7 g5 27.Qd2 b6]
26.Qg3 28 **Qe5** 52
[26...a6 seems wilder. 27.f4 gxf4 28.Qxf4 Rxb3 29.Rxd4 Qe6]
27.Qxe5 49
[27.Qg4!=]
27...Rxe5= 0 Endgame KRR-KRR **28.g3**

1:36 **Re6** 1:20 **29.Rc5** 52 **f6** 5
[29...Rc6!∓ 30.Rd5 Rc3 31.R5xd4 Rcxb3]
30.Rd5 5 **Re1+** 16 **31.Kg2** 1 **Rb1** 0 **32.Rb5** 33
[32.Rd2=]
32...Rxb5∓ 23 **33.axb5** 0 KR-KR **33...Kf8** 44 **34.Kf3** 6



Rb2! 5 Black is more active. **35.Ke4** 1:24
[35.Kg2∓ is a better defense.]
35...Rxf2-+ 4 **36.Rxd4** 6



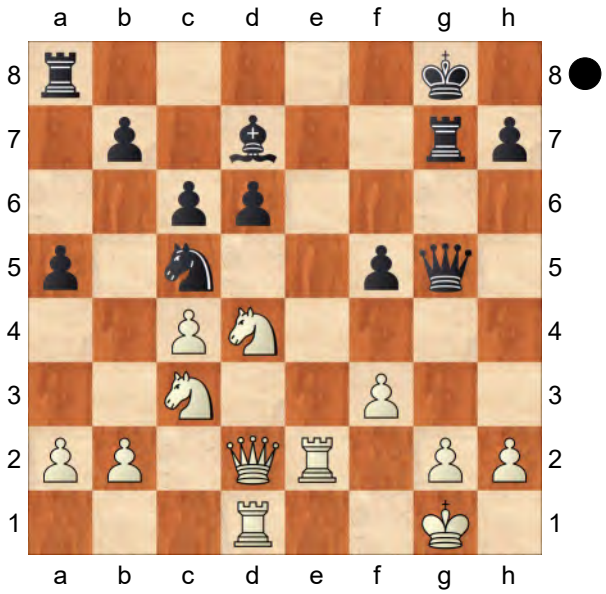
Re2+! 1:03 **37.Kd3** 28 **Rg2** 2:14 **38.Rd7?** 47
[38.g4]
38...Rxg3+ 4 Black is clearly winning. **39.Kc4** 3
[⌓39.Ke4 Kg8 40.Rxb7 Rxh3 41.Kf5]
39...b6 2 **40.Rxa7** 5 **Rxh3** 1 And now ... g4 would win. **41.Kd5** 42 **Rxb3** 1:09 **42.Kc6** 5 **g4** 3 **43.Kxb6** 5 **g3** 2 **44.Kc6** 2:20 **f5** 8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.95/ Black=0.06 (flawless)
0-1

E94

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **Giri,Anish** **2764**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (5.3)
[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 15min+10sec E94: King's Indian: Classical: 6 Be2 e5 7 0-0: Various Black 7th moves
This was an interesting attacking game showcasing the uncompromising style of Elisaveta. **1.d4** 0 **Nf6** 0 **2.c4** 2 **g6** 11 **3.Nc3** 2 **Bg7** 1 **4.e4** 1 **d6** 1 **5.Nf3** 1 **0-0** 1 **6.Be2** 1 **Nbd7** 2 **7.0-0** 7 **e5** 1 **8.Qc2N** 4
[8.d5
A) 8...a5 9.Be3 *(9.Bg5 h6 10.Bh4 Nc5 11.Nd2 Qe8 12.b3 Nh7 13.a3 h5 14.h3 Bh6 15.Rb1* Chess Informant Eco Chess Informant ECO E3 1998*)* 9...Ng4 10.Bg5 f6 11.Bh4 Nc5 12.Nd2 h5 13.b3 Bd7 14.Rb1 Qc8 15.h3 Nh6 16.a3 g5 17.Bg3 g4 18.hxg4 hxg4 19.b4 axb4 20.axb4 Na4 21.Nxa4 Bxa4 22.Qc1 f5 23.exf5 8.♘bd2 ♖e8 9. ♗a4 (2535)-Hug,A (2620) olm11 qual GP3 B4 corr 1987 0-1;
B) 8...Nc5 9.Bd3 Nxd3 10.Qxd3

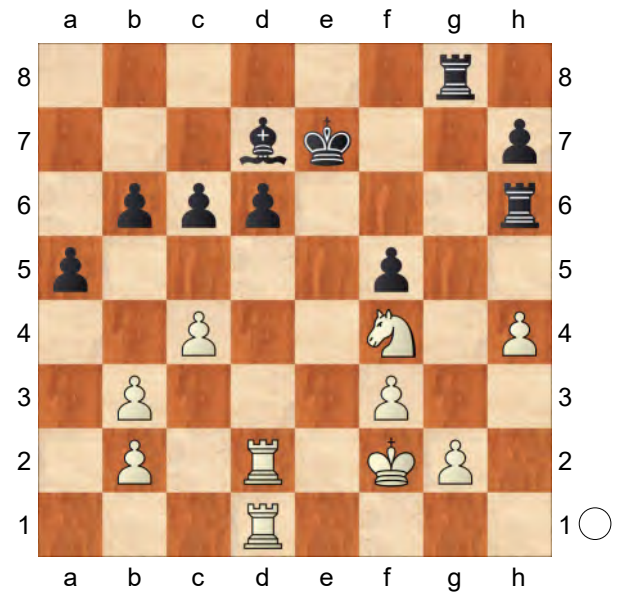
Ne8 5. Classical ...Nbd7: 8.d5-9. Bd3]
[8.Bg5 c6 *(8...h6 9.Be3 c6 10.h3 Re8 11.d5 c5 12.Qd2 Kh7 13.g4 Ng8 14.Kh2 Nf8 15.Bd3 Kh8 16.Rg1 Nh7 17.Rg2 Bd7 18.Ne2 Qf6 19.Kg3 Rf8 20.h4 Qe7 21.Qc2 Nhf6 22.Nh2 Nxg4 23.Nxg4* Abrahamyan,T (2312)-Bacrot,E (2646) Titled Tuesday intern op 15th Nov Early blitz 2022 (2) 0-1*)* 9.Qd2 Qb6 10.c5 dxc5 11.dxe5 Ng4 12.e6 fxe6 13.Nh4 Ngf6 14.Qd6 Qxb2 15.Qxe6+ Kh8 16.Nxg6+ hxg6 17.Qh3+ Nh7 18.Bh6 Qxc3 19.Bxg7+ Qxg7 20.f4 Rxf4 21.Rxf4 Qxa1+ 22.Bf1 Qd4+ 4) Elisaveta The Third-Olga Rubtsova vs. Elisaveta B,1 Queens of the Chess Board 2023 0-1]
8...exd4 47 **9.Nxd4** 0 **Nc5** 25 **10.Be3** 29 **Ng4** 6 **11.Bxg4** 2 **Bxg4** 0 **12.f3** 17 White is slightly better. **12...Bd7** 2 **13.Qd2** 18 **f5** 43 **14.exf5** 6 **gxf5** 5 **15.Bh6** 47 **Rf7** 1.90/19 31
[15...Bxd4+± 1.06/20 keeps fighting. 16.Qxd4 Rf7]
16.Bxg7+- 29 **Rxg7** 2 **17.Rae1** 1.37/20 9
[But not 17.b4 Na6]
[17.Rad1+- 1.80/20]
17...a5 1.80/20 16
[17...c6± 1.37/20 18.b4 Na6]
18.Re2 1.26/21 1:20
[18.Nd5+- 1.80/20]
18...c6± 9 **19.Rd1** 1:39 White is more active. **19...Qh4** 1:23 Repels Qd2-f4 **20.Qe1** 2:48 **Qg5** 1.52/20 2:41
[⌓20...Qxe1+ 0.80/21 21.Rexe1 a4]
21.Qd2? -0.01/20 55
[21.Nb3± 1.52/20 Strongly threatening Nb3xc5. Nxb3 22.axb3]



21...Qh4!= 14 **22.Qe1** -0.01/22 3
[22.f4± 0.94/21]
22...Qxe1+ 0.82/22 26
[22...Qg5!= -0.01/22 keeps the balance.]
23.Rexe1± 17 **Kf7** 5 **24.Nb3** 1:44 **Nxb3** 14 **25.axb3** 0
[25.Na4 keeps more tension. b5 26.Nb6 Rag8 27.axb3 Rxg2+ 28.Kh1]
25...Rg6 4 **26.Re2** 2 **Re6** 33 **27.Red2** 22 **Ke7** 1 **28.Ne2** 6 **Rf6** 10 **29.Nf4** 5 **b6** 52 **30.h4** 26 **Rg8** 1.04/23 14
[30...Re8± 0.56/23]
31.Kf2 16 **Rh6** 1.51/23 4
[⌓31...Re8 0.89/22]

(Diagram)

32.g3 0.70/22 23
[White should try 32.h5!± 1.51/23]
32...Rf6 1.48/26 3
[Better is 32...Re8± 0.70/22]
33.Nh5 0.59/22 6
[33.Re2+± 1.48/26 Kf7 34.b4]
33...Rh6± 6 **34.Nf4** -0.01/25 2
[White should play 34.Re1+± 0.60/22



Re6 35.Ra1]
34...Rf6= 2 **35.Nh5** 0.01/21 7
[35.b4± 1.42/25]
35...Rh6! 7 **36.Nf4** -0.01/40 1
Black defended with fortune.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/Black=0.26 (precise)
[36.Re2+± 0.81/24 Kd8 37.Nf4]
½-½

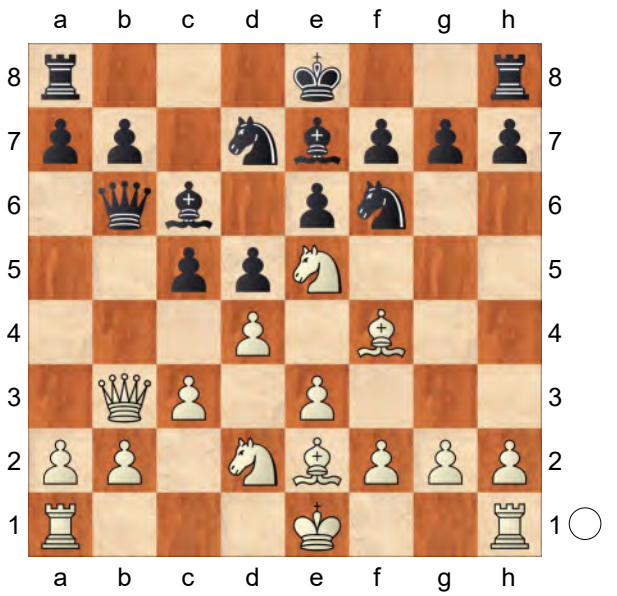
D02

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **So,Wesley** **2760**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (3.2)
[TA]

Rapid 15min+10sec **1.d4** 0 **Nf6** 0 **2.Nf3** 3 **d5** 3 **3.Bf4** 2 **c5** 7 **4.e3** 2 **e6** 7 **5.c3** 7 **Qb6** 9 **6.Qb3** 4 **Bd7** 17 D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4. **7.Nbd2** 26 **Bc6** 10 **8.Be2** 41 **Be7** 5 The position is equal. **9.Ne5** 21 **Nbd7** 6

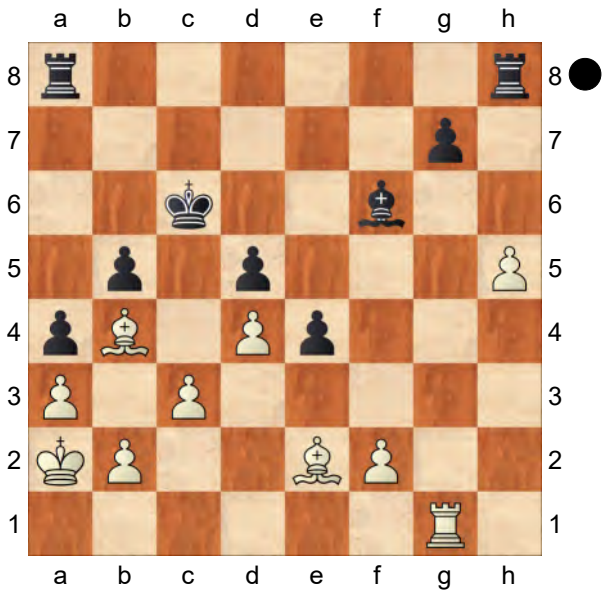
(Diagram)

10.h4N 25



[Predecessor: 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.0-0 0-0 13.Qxb6 axb6 14.Bg3 Ra7 15.Nb3 Rfa8 16.a3 ½-½ (24) Kaniansky,M (2132)-Kalisky,V (2202) Slovakia 2018]
10...a5 1:17
[10...Nxe5= 11.Bxe5 Qd8]
11.Ndf3 55 **0-0** 1:24 **12.h5** 1:14 **a4** 23 **13.Qxb6** 1:09 **Nxb6** 0 **14.a3** 32 **Rfc8** 2:30 **15.g4** 2:09 **Nfd7** 40 **16.g5** 38 **Nxe5** 23 **17.Nxe5** 0 **cxd4** 50 **18.exd4** 43 **Nc4!** 6 **19.g6** 2:03 **Nxe5** 3:03 **20.gxh7+** 28 **Kxh7** 0 ...Nc4 is the strong threat. **21.Bxe5** 0 **Rh8** 1:56 **22.Kd2** 2:31 **Bg5+** 22 **23.Kc2** 4 **f6** 47 **24.Bg3** 56 **Kg8** 34 **25.Rae1** 9 **Kf7** 22 **26.Bd3** 19 **f5** 13 **27.Be5** 28 **Bf6** 13 **28.Bf4** 1:45 **Rh7** 25 **29.Be2** 4 **Rah8** 11 **30.Kd2** 16 **Ke7** 10 **31.Bf3** 8 **Rd8** 25 **32.Re3** 18 Strongly threatening Rhe1. **32...Be8** 18 **33.Rhe1** 5 **Bf7** 1 **34.Bd1** 15 **Ra8** 12 **35.Be2** 15 **Kd7** 24 **36.Bb5+** 21 **Ke7** 1 **37.Be2!** 14 **Rhh8** 11 **38.Kc1** 17 **Rac8** 1:39 White must now prevent ...Bxd4. **39.Kb1** 4 **Ra8** 6 **40.Ka2** 17 **Rac8** 4
[40...Bh4 41.Rh3 Bf6 42.Bd3±]
41.Bd1 20 **Ra8** 4 **42.Be2** 31 **Rac8** 1
[Don't take 42...Bh4 43.Rh3 Bf6

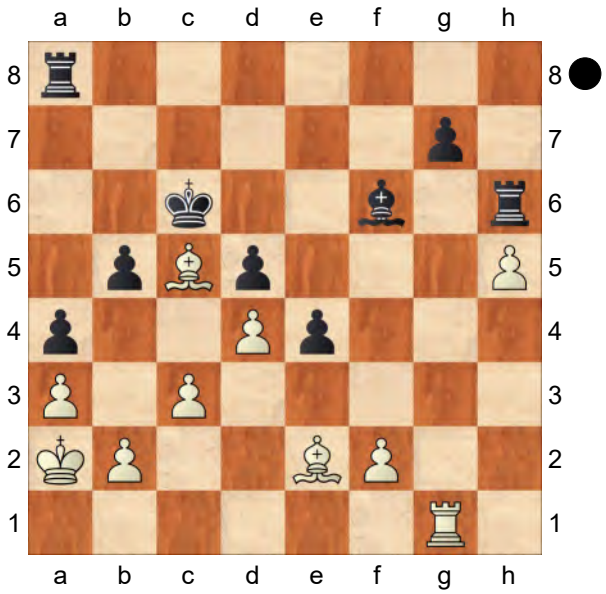
44.Bd3±]
43.Bf3 5 **Kd7** 11 **44.Bd1** 3 **Ra8** 8
45.Be2 7 **Ke7** 6 **46.Bc7** 16 **Kd7** 14
47.Bb6 7
[47.Bh2= keeps the balance.]
47...Kc6∓ 15 **48.Bc5** 1 **e5** 28 **49.Rf3** 31
e4 20
[Stronger than 49...Bxh5 50.Rxf5 Bg6 51.Rf3∓]
[Worse is 49...Rxh5 50.dxe5 Bxe5 51.Bd4∓]
50.Rxf5 28 **Be6** 0 **51.Rf4** 3 **Bg5** 2
52.Rg4 6 **Bxg4** 1 **53.Bxg4** 0 **b6** 1:01
[⌓53...Rhe8 54.f3 e3]
54.Bb4 2 **b5** 0 **55.Rg1** 12 **Bf6↑** 18
Black has some pressure. **56.Be2** 10
[56.b3!∓]



56...Rh6 7
[56...Rag8!∓ aiming for ...g6! 57.f3 e3]
57.Bc5? 7
[57.f3!=]

(Diagram)

This move loses the game for White.



57...g6!-+ 15 **58.hxg6** 32 **Rg8** 2 **59.b3** 3 **Rgxg6** 11 **60.Rf1** 19 **Rg2** 20
61.bxa4 1 **bxa4** 0 Hoping for ...Rhh2.
62.Bd1 4 **Rhh2** 5 **63.Bxa4+** 4 **Kc7** 1
64.Kb3 8 **Rxf2** 2 **65.Rb1** 1 Prevents Rb2+. **65...e3** 8 **66.Bb5** 30 **e2** 6
67.a4? 17
[67.Bb4 is a better defense.]
67...Bh4 3 **68.a5** 4 **e1Q** 16
Black mates. **69.Rxe1** 8 **Rb2+** 1
Discovered Attack **70.Ka4** 0 **Ra2+** 8
71.Ba3 8 **Bxe1** 1 Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
0-1

D12

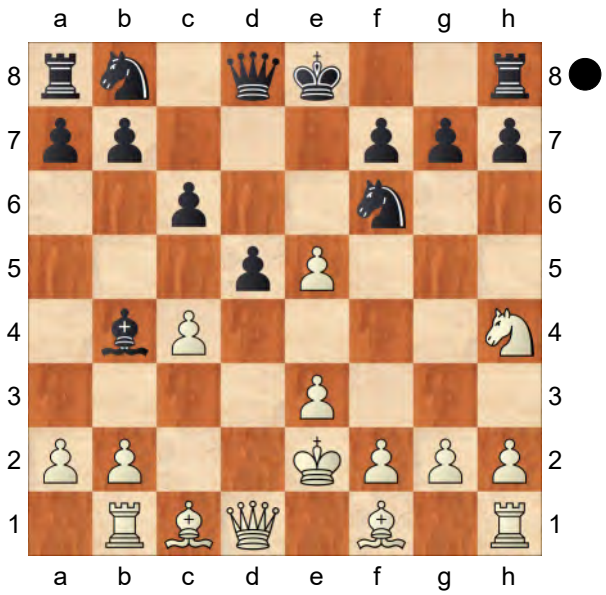
□ **So,Wesley** **2760**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (3.3)
[TA]

Rapid 15min+10sec **1.d4** 0 **d5** 0 **2.c4** 4 **c6** 1 **3.Nf3** 11 **Nf6** 1 **4.e3** 10 **Bf5** 3 **5.Nh4** 3 **Bxb1** 1:14 **6.Rxb1** 0
D12: Slav Defence: 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 e3 Bf5.
6...e5 1 **7.dxe5** 4 **Bb4+** 3

[7...Ne4= 8.Nf3 Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Nxd2 10.Nxd2 d4]

8.Ke2!± 2

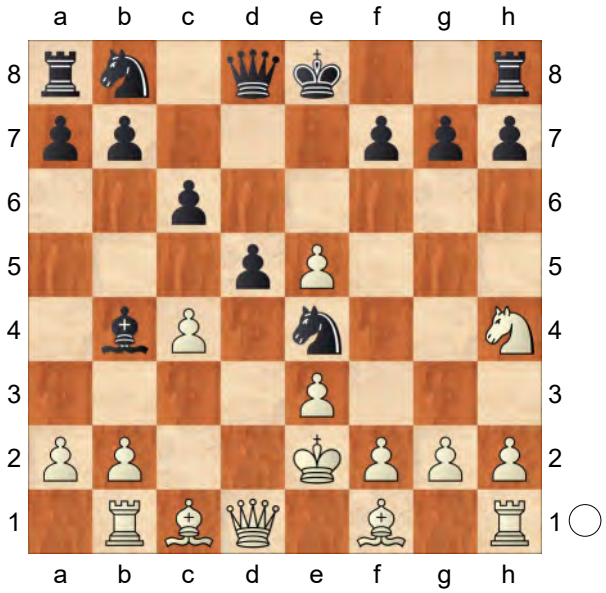
[8.Bd2 Bxd2+ 9.Qxd2 Ne4∓]



White is slightly better. **8...Ne4N 2**

[8...Nfd7!± 9.Qd4 Bc5]

[Predecessor: 8...Ng4 9.Nf3 Qe7 10.Qd4 Nh6 11.g4 0-0 12.Bh3 Bc5 13.Qc3 f5 14.g5 Bb4 0-1 (28) Kosanovic,D (2340) -Klasan,V (2406) Belgrade 2015]



9.g3!± 44

[9.Nf3?! Na6±]

9...0-0 18 10.Bg2 2:37 Qc8 33 11.f3 2:33

[Much less strong is 11.cxd5?! cxd5 12.Qd3 Nd7±]

11...Ng5 2

[11...g5±]

12.Qc2 26 And now cxd5 would win.

[Resist 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.Qd3 Rd8]

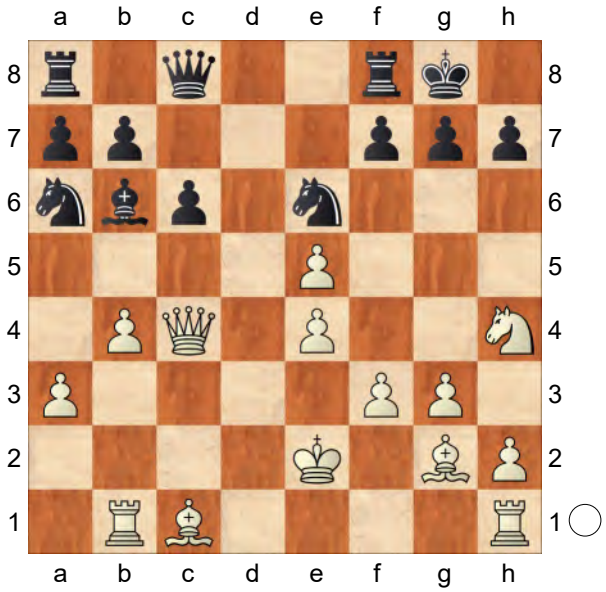
12...dxc4 2:32 13.Qxc4 1:48 Na6 3 14.a3↑ 1:06 White has strong initiative.

14...Ba5 11

[⌓14...Be7 15.e4 g6]

15.b4+- 26 Bb6 2 16.e4 1:14 Ne6 32

[16...h6 was called for. 17.Bxg5 hxg5]



17.Nf5! 2 Strongly threatening Ne7+.

17...Qc7 13 Inhibits Ne7+. **18.Bb2 7 Rad8 39 19.Rhd1 5** Active counter play!

19...c5 3 20.b5 16 Nb8 1 21.f4 18 Ba5 54 22.Rd6 28 Nd7? 29

[22...Rfe8 23.Rc1 a6 24.bxa6 Nxa6]

23.Rxe6 57 fxe6 47 24.Qxe6+ 0 Kh8 1 25.Qe7 18 Nxe5 2:35 26.Qxe5 20 Rd2+ 7 27.Kf3 29 Qxe5 22 28.Bxe5 0

[Weaker is 28.fxe5 c4+-]
28...Rf7 0 **29.Bf1** 24 **Rfd7** 19 **30.Bc4** 15 **h5** 5 **31.Rb3** 1:00 **Rxh2** 18 **32.Nxg7** 53 **Kh7** 49
[⌓32...Rxg7 33.Rd3 Rd2 34.Rxd2 Bxd2 35.Bxg7+ Kxg7]
33.Rd3 19 **Rxd3+** 15 **34.Bxd3** 0 This bishop pair is nice. **34...Ra2** 3 **35.Nxh5** 36 **Rxa3** 2 **36.Ke2** 0 **Ra2+** 24 **37.Kf1** 9 **Rd2** 44 **38.Nf6+** 12 **Kh6** 20 **39.Ng4+** 12 **Kh7** 14 **40.Nf6+** 9 **Kh6!** 2 **41.Be2** 21 Hoping for g4. **41...Rc2** 29 **42.g4** 5 **c4** 11 **43.g5+** 2 **Kg7** 3 **44.Nd5+** 38 **Kg6** 11 **45.Bf6** 17
[⌓45.f5+ Kxg5 46.Bf4+ Kh4 47.f6 Rd2 48.f7 Bb4 49.Bxd2 Bf8 50.Bxc4]
45...c3 17 **46.f5+** 3 White mates. **46...Kh7** 3 **47.g6+** 1 **Kh6** 1 **48.g7** 22 **Rc1+** 4 **49.Kg2** 13 **Kh7** 9 **50.Ne7** 8 Black did not feel at home in the position after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0. 16 (very precise) / Black=0.42
1-0

D85

□ **Maghsoodloo,Parham** **2719**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
155/158 Wijk aan Zee 2023
[Bozic,V, MH]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.h3 0-0 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.e4 Nxc3 8.bxc3 c5 9.Be2 Nc6 Flear,Glenn: 'This has established itself as the main move here.'
[For the alternatives 9...b6 see Grachev, B - Turov, M Tuapse 2022, and for 9...b5 Bluebaum, M - Svidler, P Chessable online rapid 2020, in the archives.]
10.Be3 cxd4
[The immediate 10...Qa5 was chosen in Babula, V - Menezes, C Czech league 2022, a game that I analyzed for ChessPublishing.]
11.cxd4 Qa5+ 12.Bd2 Qa3 13.d5 Ne5 14.0-0 Flear,Glenn: 'The most popular of the three 'reasonable' possibilities here, but do any of them give the opponent anything to worry about?'
[In the case of 14.Rb1 Nxf3+ 15.Bxf3 it seems best to take the bait: Qxa2 *(* in Nguyen Ngoc Truong Son - Laylo, D Ho Chi Minh City 2015, Black continued with *15...b6* but my analysis at the time suggested that it was inferior, see the archives*)* 16.0-0 a5 (pushing the a-pawn generates counterplay and basically brings the a8-rook into the game, so there's no pressing need to develop the c8-bishop here) 17.Re1 a4 18.Bb4 Re8 19.Qd3 b6 (careful, the black queen is on the verge of getting trapped, so some evasive action is required) *(*possible is *19...b5* as *20.Qxb5 Ba6 21.Qc5 Rac8* would offer good play for Black*)* 20.e5 Bf5! (the best way to attack the opposing queen) 21.Be4 Bxe4 22.Qxe4 Rac8 23.Ra1 Qb3 Wojtaszek, R - Giri, A Julius Baer rapid 2022, and Black is fine, even if White has more or less enough compensation.]
[After the similar-looking 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.0-0 there is (compare with the main game) a neat bishop manoeuvre that Maghsoodloo has previously employed (with Black): Bd7! 16.Rb1 Ba4 17.Qc1 Qxa2! 18.Rxb7 *(*alternatively, *18.Bc4 Qc2 19.Rxb7 Qxc1 20.Rxc1 Rfb8!* (best)

21.Rxb8+ Rxb8 22.Ba6 Bb5 23.Bxb5 Rxb5 24.Kf1 f5= Harikrishna, P - Vachier-Lagrave, M Mayrhofen 2022*)* 18...Rfc8 19.Rxa7 Rxc1 20.Rxa8+ Rc8! *(20...Kg7 21.Bxc1 Qxe2 22.Rxa4* gives White a favourable version*)* 21.Rxc8+ Kg7 22.Bd1 Qxd2 23.Bxa4 Qf4 24.g3 Qxe4 Parligras, M - Maghsoodloo, P German league 2022, and only Black has winning chances.]

14...Bd7

[14...Bxh3 - 80/475]

[After 14...Nxf3+ 15.Bxf3 play can become quite sharp, but what to capture first?:

A) 15...Bxa1 16.Qxa1 f6 17.Rb1 a5 *(17...Rf7N* is suggested by Stockfish as best, but this needs testing *)*

A1) 18.e5 fxe5 19.Qxe5 Qd6 *(* Black seems to be OK after *19...Rxf3! 20.gxf3 Qxf3 21.Bc3 Qf6 22.Qg3 Qf5=)* 20.Qe3 e6? (the wrong idea altogether) 21.dxe6 *(21.Bc3!+-)* 21...Qxe6 22.Qd4 Qf6? *(22...Rxf3!* is the lesser evil*)* 23.Bd5+ Kg7 24.Qe3 Qd6 25.Bc3+ Rf6 26.Rb6 1-0 Ilner, A - Wantiez, F Belgian league 2015;

A2) 18.Bh6! Rf7 19.e5 *(19.Rb6!? Ra6 20.Rb5* is Stockfish's mysterious idea*)* 19...fxe5 20.Qxe5 Qd6 21.Qe3 b5 (otherwise the pressure is too unpleasant, but White remains on top) 22.Rxb5 Rb8 23.Qb3 Rxb5 24.Qxb5 Qd7 25.Qxa5 Bb7+- Hossain, E - Vakhidov, J Asian Hybrid Tornelo 2021, and Black was clearly not happy;

B) pushing the a-pawn makes a lot of sense whether White leaves his rook on a1 or moves it to b1, as it's a source of potential counterplay: 15...a5!? 16.Re1 Bxa1 17.Qxa1 f6 18.e5 fxe5 19.Qxe5 Qd6 20.Qxe7 *(20.Qd4!? Rf6!?)* 20...Qxe7 21.Rxe7 Rf7 22.Re8+ Rf8 23.Re5 Rf5 Makarian, R - Sjugirov, S Russian league 2021, and Black holds firm;

C) 15...Bxh3 16.Rb1 Bd7 17.Bb4 Qxa2 18.Bxe7 Rfe8 19.d6 Bc6 20.e5 Bxf3 21.Qxf3 Qe6 22.Qxb7**±** Indjic, A - Paravyan, D Almaty blitz 2022, and the advanced d-pawn ensures a white advantage. As far as I can see, both fifteen move captures are acceptable, but in both cases a precise follow-up will be required. If these don't appeal, then 15...a5 has its points as well.]

15.Rb1 Ba4

[At this point 15...Qxa2 seems playable, but is perhaps not best: 16.Rxb7 Ba4 17.Qc1 (this natural queen move doesn't lead to any advantage) *(* see the note to Black's sixteenth for *17.Qe1!±)* 17...Rac8! *(17...Rfc8? 18.Rxa7! Rxc1??* (he seems to have his lines mixed up!) *19.Rxa8+ Bf8 20.Bxc1 Nd7 21.Bd1+-* Tari, A - Van Foreest, J Chessable Masters 2021*)* 18.Qe1 Rc2 19.Rxa7 Nxf3+ 20.Bxf3 Rxd2 21.Rxa4 Qb2 22.Ra7 Re8 23.Rb7 Qd4 Cramling, P - Kulaots, K Swedish league 2022, and despite being a pawn down, Black's activity ensures that he has easy equality.]

16.Qe1

[16.Qc1 could transpose to the previous note and was indeed the

move order in Craming, P - Kulaots, K, see above.]

16...Nd3 Flear,Glenn: '!' Flear,Glenn: 'Eliminating the opponent's light-square bishop seems best. This possibility isn't available in the analogous variation involving 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.0-0 (see the note to White's fourteenth move).'

[Here 16...Qxa2 definitely seems inferior: Flear,Glenn: 'see the note to Black's sixteenth for' 17.Rxb7 Flear,Glenn: ' ±!' Rfb8 18.Rxe7 Bf6? *(* there would still be some hope after *18...Nxf3+ 19.Bxf3 Bf6 20.Rc7 Be5 21.Rc1 Bb5 22.Be2 Bxe2 23.Qxe2 a5±* with some compensation for the pawn *)* 19.Rxe5! Rb2 20.Rg5!? (a pretty idea, but not the only way) Bxg5? 21.Bxg5 Rxe2 22.Qb4 Rc8 23.Ne5 h6 24.Qe7 1-0 Kavutskiy, K - Tiglon, B San Jose 2022.]

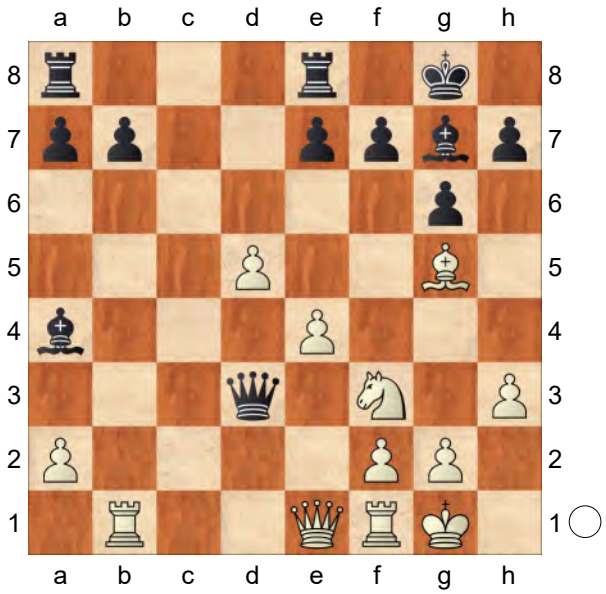
17.Bxd3 Qxd3 18.Bg5 Rfe8 Diagram

[Instead, 18...h6? is too provocative: 19.Bxe7 Rfe8 20.Rxb7 Qa6 21.Qb4! Rac8 22.d6 Bc3 23.Qb1 Bc2 24.Qb5 Qxb5 25.Rxb5+- Grischuk, A - Puranik, A Titled Tuesday online blitz 2022, and the passed d-pawn wins the day.]

(Diagram)

19.Qb4N Flear,Glenn: 'Finally, we arrive on virgin territory.'

[Flear,Glenn: 'Previously, in the two games that had reached this position, both players captured on b7:' 19.Rxb7 Bb5 20.Bxe7 Qxf1+ 21.Qxf1 Bxf1 22.Kxf1 Flear,Glenn: '(the unbalanced pseudo-endgame that follows is equal according to Stockfish)' Rab8 *(22...Bf8 23.Bxf8 Kxf8 24.Ng5 h6*



25.Nxf7 Rab8 26.Rxb8 Rxb8= 27.Ne5 Grischuk, A - Antipov, M Titled Tuesday online blitz 2022.*)* 23.Rxa7 Bf8 24.Bxf8 Kxf8 25.Ng5 h6 26.Nxf7 Rxe4 27.g3 Re7= Flear,Glenn: 'Sevian, S - Vachier-Lagrave, M Chess.com rapid 2022']

19...b5 20.Rbc1

[20.Bxe7 a5 21.Qd6 b4 22.Rbc1 Bc3 23.e5 Ra6 24.Qc5 Qb5∞]

20...a5 21.Qc5 Flear,Glenn: 'Instead of grabbing pawns, Maghsoodloo gives up his own e-pawn in his quest for the initiative.' **21...Qxe4 22.Rfe1 Qf5 23.g4** Flear,Glenn: 'Chasing the royal intruder back into it's own camp.'

[23.Bxe7 Rac8 24.Qd6 Rxc1 *(24...Rc4 25.Rxc4 bxc4 26.Qa3 Qd7 27.d6 Qb5∓)* 25.Rxc1 b4∓]

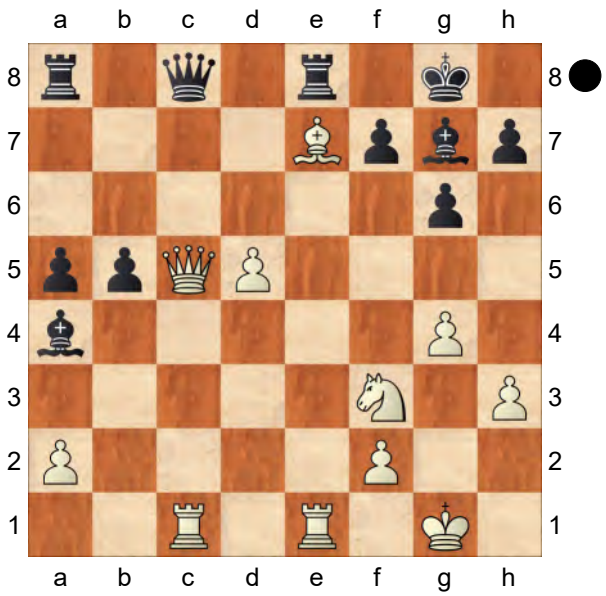
23...Qc8

[23...Qxf3?? drops the queen to 24.Re3]

24.Bxe7 Diagram

(Diagram)

Flear,Glenn: 'Only now! The passed d-pawn might seem to be more dangerous



than the queenside majority, but the silicon experts assure me that it's still equal.' **24...b4**

[24...Qxc5! 25.Rxc5 *(25.Bxc5?! b4∓)* 25...Rxe7 26.Rxe7 Bf8 27.d6 *(27.Rec7 Bxc5 28.Rxc5 b4 29.Ne5 b3 30.axb3 Bxb3 31.d6 a4 32.d7 Be6 33.Ra5 Rd8 34.Rxa4 Kf8 35.Rd4 f6=)* 27...Bxe7 28.dxe7 f6 29.Rd5 Re8 30.Nd4 Rxe7 31.Nxb5 Bxb5 32.Rxb5 Re5 33.Rxe5 fxe5 34.Kg2 Kf7 35.Kf3 Ke6=]

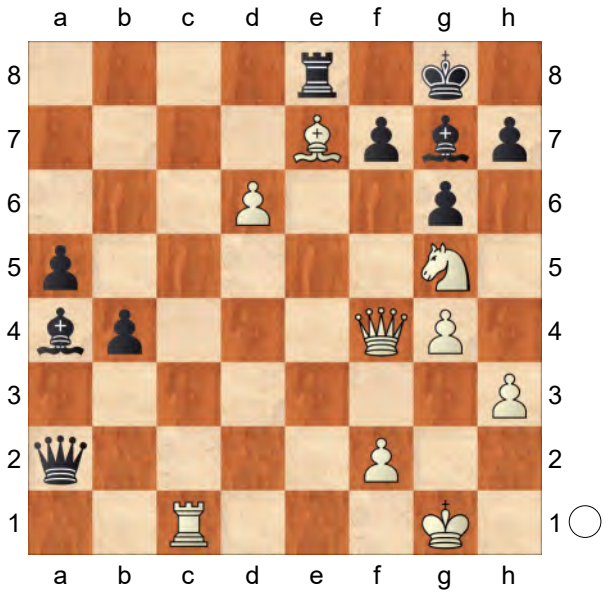
25.Qe3 Qb7 26.d6 Rac8 27.Ng5 Rxc1 28.Rxc1 Qd5 29.Qf4 Qxa2

Diagram

[Flear,Glenn: 'A safeish equality could be achieved with exchanges:' 29...Bh6!

A) 30.Rc5 Bxg5 31.Qxg5 Qxa2 *(31...Qxg5?! 32.Bxg5 Re1+ 33.Kh2 Rd1 34.Bf6 Bd7 35.Rxa5 Bc6 36.Be7±)* 32.Kg2 Qe6 33.Qf4 f6∞;

B) 30.Qc4 Qxc4 31.Rxc4 f5 *(31...Bxg5 32.Bxg5 Re6=)* 32.Nf3 fxg4 33.hxg4 Bf8 34.Bxf8 Kxf8 35.Rc5 Rd8 36.Rxa5 Bd1 37.Ne5 Rxd6=]



Flear,Glenn: '?!' Flear,Glenn: 'A key decision which proves to be a questionable one.' **30.Rc4! f5?** Flear,Glenn: 'Despite Erigaisi wanting to seek confusion and perhaps solace in the complications, the tactics don't really work for him.'

[Flear,Glenn: 'The best chance was' 30...f6

A) RR31.Ne6 Bb5! 32.Nxg7 *(32.Rc5 Qxe6 33.Rxb5 Bf8=)* 32...Qxc4 33.Qxc4+ Bxc4 34.Nxe8 Kf7 35.Nxf6 b3 36.Ne4 b2 37.Nc3 a4 38.Nb1 Ba2 39.Na3 b1Q+ 40.Nxb1 Bxb1= Perunovic, Milos;

B) 31.Ne4 g5 Flear,Glenn: 'when many an opponent would bail out by capturing on f6 (32.Nxf6+ Bxf6 33.Qxf6 Qxc4 34.Qxg5+ etc.) thus taking a perpetual. Nevertheless, White could certainly try for more with' 32.Qc1 *(32.Nxf6+ Bxf6 33.Qxf6 Qxc4 34.Qxg5+ Kf7 35.Qf6+ Kg8 36.Qg5+ Kf7=)* 32...b3 33.Nc3 b2!

B1) 34.Nxa2 bxc1Q+ 35.Nxc1

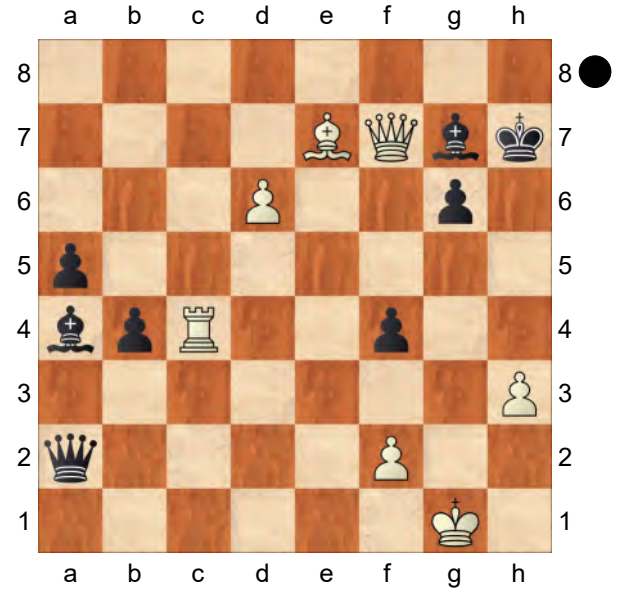
Bd7 36.Rc7 Rc8 37.Rxd7 Rxc1+ 38.Kg2 Flear,Glenn: '±' Flear,Glenn: 'but this is probably defensible.' Kf7 39.Ra7 Rd1 40.Bd8+ *(40.Rxa5 Bf8=)* 40...Ke8 41.Bxa5 Bf8! 42.Bc3 h6 43.Bxf6 Rxd6 44.Bb2 Re6=;

B2) 34.Qf1 Qb3 35.Rxa4 Qxc3 36.d7 Rb8 37.Rc4 Qb3 38.Rc8+ Kf7 39.Qb1 Qxh3 40.d8Q Qxg4+ 41.Kf1 Qh3+ 42.Kg1 Qg4+=]

31.gxf5 h6 32.f6? Flear,Glenn: '?!'

[Flear,Glenn: 'The engine gives the strange-looking' 32.Kg2! Flear,Glenn: 'as basically winning, a typical continuation being' Bb5 *(32...hxg5 33.Qe4 gxf5 34.Qe6+ Kh8 35.Rh4++- gxh4 36.Qxa2+-)* 33.f6! Bxc4 34.fxg7 hxg5 *(34...Bd5+ 35.Kg3+-)* 35.Qf8+ Kh7 36.Qxe8 Bd5+ 37.Kg3 Bg8 38.d7+-]

32...hxg5 33.f7+ Kh7 34.fxe8Q gxf4 35.Qf7 Diagram



Flear,Glenn: 'The new queen replaces the old one. Now, with an extra exchange in the tense middlegame it would seem that White is on top. However, it turns out that Black is OK if he is precise, but this is no easy task, especially just coming up to move forty.'

35...Be8?

[Flear,Glenn: 'Correct is' 35...Qa1+ Flear,Glenn: '!'

A) 36.Kg2 Bb3 37.Qxf4 *(37.d7 Bxc4 38.Qxc4 f3+!* and, in all cases, the d-pawn will be seized before it promotes*)* 37...Bxc4 38.Qh4+ Bh6 39.Qxc4 Qe5= with the well-placed black queen thwarting any efforts to promote the d-pawn.;

B) 36.Kh2 Bb3 37.d7 *(37.Bh4 Bxc4 38.Qxc4 Qc3 39.Qxc3 bxc3 40.d7 c2 41.d8Q c1Q 42.Qxa5=)* 37...Qf1! 38.Qxf4 Be5! 39.Qxe5 *(39.Bc5 Bxf4+ 40.Rxf4 g5! 41.d8Q gxf4=)* 39...Qxf2+= Flear,Glenn: 'with a draw! How many folk would have found that, I wonder!?']

36.Qxf4 b3 37.d7! Bxd7 38.Qf7 Flear,Glenn: '+-!' Flear,Glenn: 'Now the threat of Rh4+ forces desperate measures, but these come to naught.'

38...Qa1+ 39.Kg2 Bxh3+ 40.Kh2!+- Qe5+ 41.Kxh3 Qf5+ 42.Qxf5 gxf5 43.Rc7 Kg6 44.Ba3 Be5 45.Rc5 Bd4 46.Rxa5 Bxf2 47.Rb5

1-0

A06

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2724**
Tata Steel India Rapid (2.4) 29.11.2022
[David Cummings]

1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 c5 Black makes an uncompromising response to Larsen's

Opening, setting up a big centre. **3.Nf3** A natural developing move, but it does invite Black's next.

[3.e3 is more flexible, and the more popular move overall.]

3...f6 This is Black's 2nd most common move here, and has been essayed several times by Nakamura in blitz games. Instead:

[3...Nc6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Bb5 is the kind of setup White is aiming for when playing this opening. Now Bd7 6.0-0 e6 7.d3 Be7 8.Bxc6 Bxc6 9.Ne5 Rc8 10.Nd2 0-0 11.f4 reaches a tabiya analyzed in Wadsworth-Parligras in the Archives.]

4.e4!? The critical line. The alternatives allow Black more central control:

[4.e3 e5 and after 5.d4 cxd4 6.exd4 e4 7.Nfd2 f5 8.c4 Nf6 9.Nc3 when Black can try:

A) 9...Be6 has often been seen in practice. Now 10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.Bb5+ Nc6 12.0-0 Be7 13.Qh5+ *(13.Nc4 0-0* completes Black's development and leaves him clearly better due to superior central control, Nepomniachtchi,I (2784)-Nakamura,H (2736) Lichess.org INT 2020 1-0 (31)*)* 13...g6 14.Qh6 Kayumov,S (2505)-Hirneise,T (2466) Doha 2016 1-0 (55), and now a6 gives roughly balanced chances.;

B) 9...Bd6! is a good novelty, giving White the d5-pawn in return for fast development. After 10.Nxd5 Nxd5 11.cxd5 0-0 Black is for choice, since it is challenging for White to find permanent king safety.]

[4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 e5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.e3 Be6 8.Be2 Bc5 9.0-0 Nge7 and Black was fine in Xiong,J (2709)-Nakamura,H (2736) Chess.com INT 2020 0-1 (37)]

4...dxe4 After:

[4...d4 White can play 5.e5 and later on undermine Black's pawn chain with c2-c3.]

5.Nh4 g6 Black prevents Qd1-h5+ and prepares to fianchetto the f8-bishop, but the alternative:

[5...Nh6 may be best. Now White has tried:

A) 6.g3 Nc6 7.Nc3 and here e5 looks simply better for Black. *(7...g5* was the wild alternative played in Edouard,R (2640)-Van Foreest,J (2644) Chess.com INT 2020 0-1 (27), but after *8.Qh5+ Kd7 9.Ng2 Nd4 10.0-0-0* Black's exposed king leaves the second player in trouble. *)*;

B) 6.Nc3 and again Black has the choice between a crazy and sensible pawn thrust:

B1) 6...g5 7.Qh5+ Kd7 8.Nxe4 Not the most accurate. *(8.d3* can also be tried since *gxh4? 9.0-0-0* gives White a powerful attack *)* 8...gxh4 9.d4 Nc6 *(9...Kc7* looks scary but leaves Black better according to the engine. *)* 10.d5 Ne5? 11.Bxe5 fxe5 Gholami,A (2554)-O'Donnell,C (2345) New Delhi 2019 â-â (70), and now 12.Bb5+ Kc7 13.Qxe5+ Kb6 14.Qxh8 leaves White well on top.;

B2) 6...e5 7.Nxe4 Sopur,L (2419)-Malisauskas,V (2516) Police 2010 0-1 (45), and now Nc6 8.Bb5 Qb6 is fine for Black.]

6.Qe2 A new move but White had better:

[6.Nc3 and now e5 7.Bb5+ Bd7 8.Bxd7+ Nxd7 9.Nxe4 *(9.d3! exd3?! 10.Qxd3* gives White a strong initiative*)* 9...Nh6 10.Nf3 Nf7 11.Qe2 Bg7 12.h4 Qe7 13.0-0-0 0-0-0 Travadon,L (2424)-Alekseenko,K (2696) Chess.com INT 2020 1-0 (71) and now 14.g4 leaves White with an edge due to the kingside space advantage.]

6...Bg7 Getting ready for the tactics, which paid off in the game Instead:

[6...Nc6 7.Qxe4 e5 gives Black a solid Maroczy structure and chances to gain more time against White's queen.]

7.Qxe4 f5 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Bxg7?? White either missed Black's 11th move, or misjudged the resulting material imbalance. White had to continue:

[9.Qa3 Bxb2 10.Qxb2 Nf6 which is approximately level.]

9...Bxa4 10.bxa4 Or:

[10.Bxh8 Bc6 11.Bb2 e5 12.Nf3 Bxf3 13.gxf3 Nc6 with a winning position for Black.]

10...Nf6 11.Bxh8 Qd4 A key double attack on the h4-knight and a1-rook! **12.Nc3 Qxh4 13.Rb1 Nbd7 14.Rxb7 Kf7 15.Bxf6 Nxf6 16.Be2 Qd4** Black has queen for rook, bishop and pawn, but White has weaknesses - this should have been a straightforward victory for Black. **17.a5 Ne4 18.0-0 Nxd2 19.Nb5 Qa4 20.Rd1 Qxc2 21.a6** White starts to get a hint of counterplay but the engine still evaluates this position as -6... **21...Rd8 22.h3 Nf3+ 23.gxf3 Rxd1+ 24.Bxd1 Qxd1+ 25.Kg2 Qa4 26.Nc7 c4** It is not ideal to be starting a race. Here:

[26...Qc6 suppresses the counterplay involving the knight. After 27.Rxa7 c4 there is nothing to be done.]

27.Rxa7 c3 28.Nd5 Qc6??

[28...Qa5 29.Rxe7+ Kf8 30.Rc7 Qxd5 is still a technical win]

29.Rxe7+ Kf8 30.Nb4! Suddenly the a-pawn is on the brink of pushing through.

30...c2

[30...Qc4?? 31.Rxh7 Qxb4 32.a7 wins for White]

31.Nxc6 c1Q 32.a7 Qg5+ Baling out with a perpetual. **33.Kf1 Qc1+ 34.Kg2 Qg5+ 35.Kh1 Qc1+ 36.Kg2**

½-½

D31

□ **Maghsoodloo,Parham 2720**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2718**

Tata Steel India Rapid (7) 01.12.2022

[Kitty Kat]

D31: Queen's Gambit Declined: Semi-Slav without ...Nf6 (+ Marshall Gambit and Noteboom) and Exchange Variation lines without ...Nf6

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.e3 Nf6 5.b3 Nbd7

[5...Bb4 6.Bb2 Ne4 7.Qc2 f5 8.Bd3 Qg5 9.f4 Qh4+ 10.g3 Qh5 11.Be2 Qh6 12.Bf3 Nd7 13.Nge2 Ndf6 14.a3 Bd6 15.h3 g5 16.0-0-0 Nf2 17.Kb1 Bd7 18.Bc1 gxf4 19.exf4 Nxd1 20.Nxd1 Lunacek,J (2719)-6.♘a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2722) 54/146 Barcelona 1992 (7) 0-1]

6.Bb2 Bd6 7.Bd3 0-0 8.c5N -0.31/21

[Better is 8.Nge2= 0.20/18 e5 9.cxd5 cxd5 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.h3 a6 12.Bc2 b5 13.Nf4 Bb7 14.0-0 Ng6 15.Nce2 Re8 16.Qd2 Ne4 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Qd4 Bf8 19.Rfd1 Qxd4 20.Rxd4 Rec8 21.Rd7 Bc6 22.Rd2 Nxf4 23.Nxf4 Tardif,O (2460)-4.♘c3

♘d4 5.♗d3 35792 (2470) Leningrad 48/(118) 1989 (7) ½-½]

8...Bc7∓ 9.f4 b6 10.cxb6 Bxb6 11.Nf3 c5 12.0-0 cxd4 13.exd4 Bb7 14.Na4 Ne4 15.b4 Bc7 16.Ne5 Nxe5 17.fxe5 f6 18.Qg4 0.01/21

[18.Nc5± 0.58/21 Nxc5 19.bxc5]

18...Qe7= Strongly threatening ...f6-f5.

19.Nc5 Nxc5 0.58/24

[19...f5= 0.11/21 is superior. 20.Qd1 Bb6]

20.exf6 -0.14/23

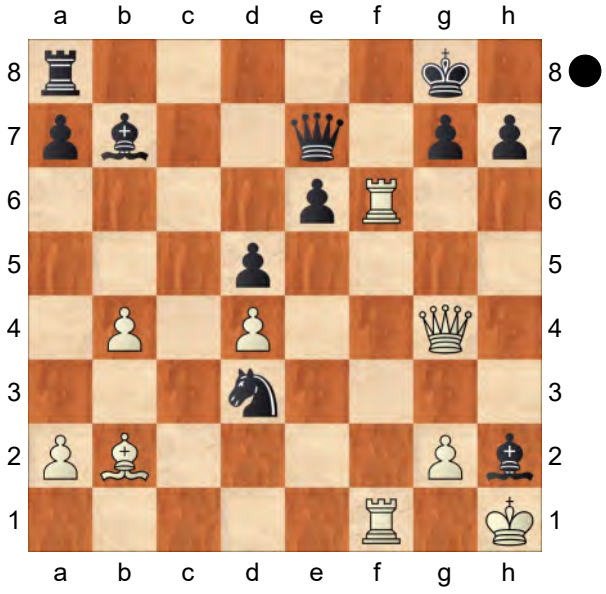
[20.dxc5 fxe5 *(20...Bxe5 21.Qh4=* Decoy *)* 21.a3 Bc6∓]

[White should play 20.bxc5± 0.58/24 f5 *(20...fxe5 21.dxe5 Rxf1+ 22.Rxf1±)* 21.Qh3]

20...Bxh2+ 21.Kh1!

[21.Kxh2? Qc7+ *(21...Rxf6? 22.dxc5 d4 23.Rxf6+-)* 22.Kg1 Nxd3-+]

21...Rxf6 22.Rxf6 Nxd3 23.Raf1



h5 -0.01/24

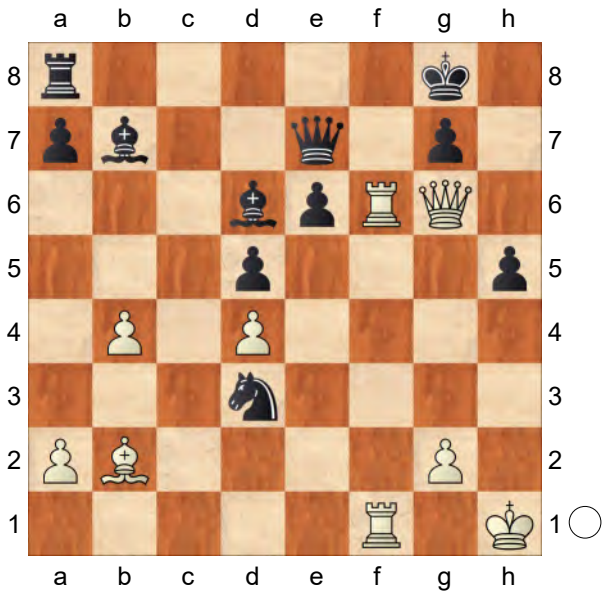
[23...Nxb2?! 24.Rf7 Qxf7 25.Rxf7 Kxf7 26.Kxh2=]

[23...Bf4!∓ -0.75/23 24.R1xf4 Nxf4 *(24...Nxb2? 25.Rf7+-)* 25.Rxf4 Ba6 *(25...Qxb4 26.Qxe6+ Kh8 27.Bc1∓)*]

24.Qg6 Threatening mate with Rf6-f7.

24...Bd6

[24...Nxb2 25.Rf7 *(25.Kxh2 Ba6∓; 25.Kxh2 Ba6∓)*]



White must now prevent ...Bb7-a6.

25.Kg1! Chess con chili. **25...Nf4**

[25...Nxb2? is the wrong capture. 26.Rf7+- *(26.Rxe6 Bh2+* Decoy *27.Kxh2 Qh4+ 28.Kg1 Qxd4+ 29.Kh2 Qh4+ 30.Kg1 Qd4+ 31.Kh2 Qh4+ 32.Kg1 Qd4+=; 26.Rxe6 Qh4=* Decoy *)*]

[25...Bf4 26.R6xf4]

26.R6xf4

[26.R1xf4 simplifies Bxf4 27.Rxf4 Rf8 28.Rxf8+ Kxf8 29.Bc3]

26...Bxf4 27.Rxf4 Bc6 28.Qxh5

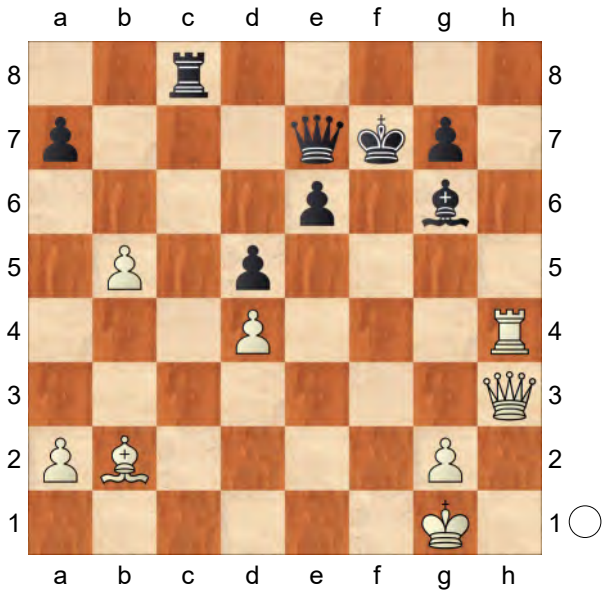
Black is weak on the dark squares

28...Be8 29.Qh3 Bg6! 30.Rh4⇄

Rh4-h8+ is the strong threat. White is fighting back **30...Kf7 31.b5 Rc8** 0.92/22

[31...Qf6= 0.01/23]

(Diagram)



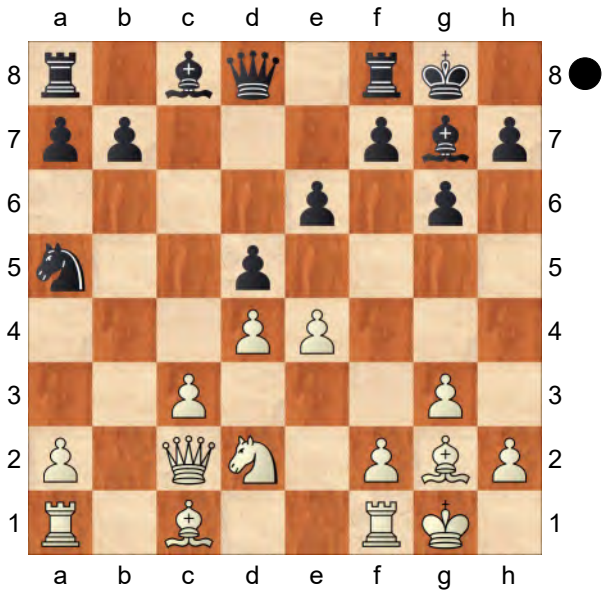
32.Ba3 -0.01/26
[32.Rf4+!± 0.92/22 Kg8 33.Ba3]
32...Qf6 The position is equal. **33.Bc5 Bf5 34.Qg3 g5!** Prevents Rh4-f4 **35.Rh5 Kg6 36.Rh4 Kf7 37.Rh5 Kg6 38.Rh4 Kf7 39.Rh5**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise)
½-½

D79

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar** **2741**
Meltwater Tour Final rapid (4.2) 17.11.22
[TA]

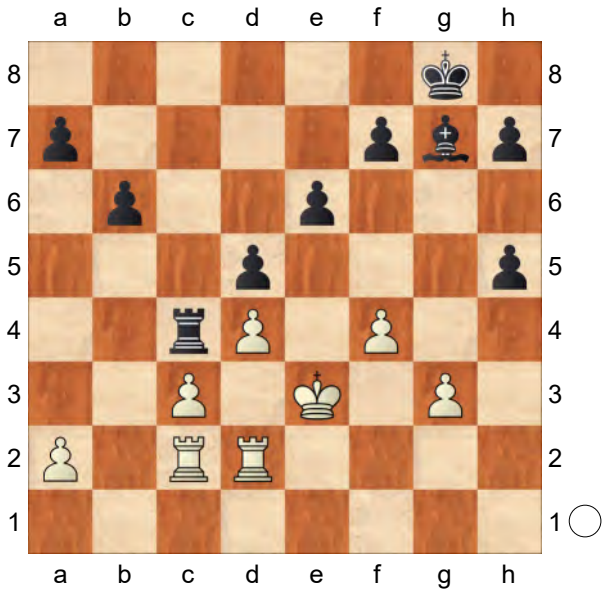
1.Nf3 0 **d5** 0 **2.g3** 5 **g6** 5 **3.Bg2** 4 **Bg7** 1 **4.d4** 2 **Nf6** 3 **5.c4** 3 **c6** 2 **6.cxd5** 9 **cxd5** 1 **7.Nc3** 1 **Ne4** 14 **8.Qb3** 12 **Nxc3** 3 **9.bxc3** 0 **0-0** 9 **10.0-0** 5 **Nc6** 12 **11.Nd2** 2 **e6** 7 **12.e4!** 2 12.e4 is better than 12.Ba3.12.e4 ist besser als 12.La3. **12...Na5** 43 D79: Fianchetto Grünfeld: Symmetrical Variation (6 0-0 c6 7 cxd5 cxd5). **13.Qc2** 5

(Diagram)



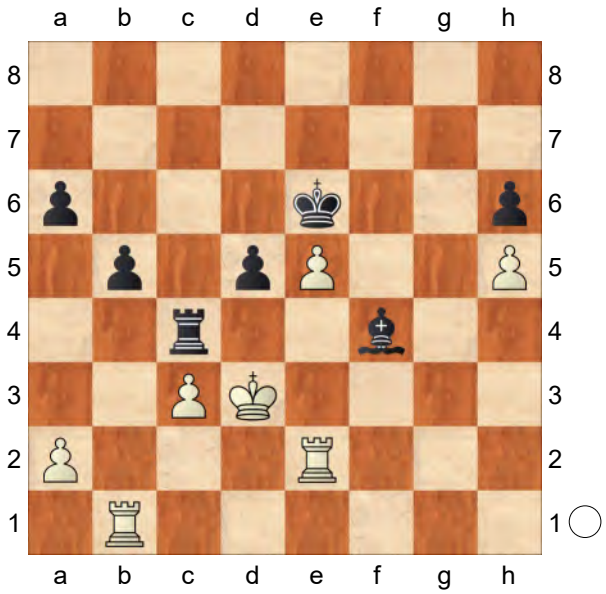
Bd7N 2:14
[Vorgänger: Predecessor: 13...b6 14.exd5 exd5 15.Re1 Bf5 16.Qa4 Rc8 17.Ba3 Bd7 18.Qd1 Re8 19.Bxd5 Rxc3 20.Bb4 Rd3 21.Bxa5 bxa5 22.Qc2 Rxd4 23.Be4 Rxd2 24.Qxd2 Bxa1 25.Rxa1 Rxe4 26.Rd1 Re7 0-1 (26) Piesik,P (2431)-Jones,G (2666) Chess.com INT 2022 0-1 (26) Piesik,P (2431)-Jones,G (2666) Chess.com INT 2022]
14.e5 2:32 **Rc8** 7 The position is equal. **15.h4** 16 **Qc7** 2:01 **16.Ba3** 40 **Rfe8** 2 **17.Rac1** 34 **Nc4** 22 **18.Nxc4** 34 **Qxc4** 0 **19.h5** 1:16 **Qa4** 1:16 **20.Qb2** 9 **Rc6** 5
[20...Bb5=]
21.Bd6 15
[Don't go for 21.Qxb7? Rb6 22.Qc7 Rc8 23.Qxc8+ Bxc8-+]
21...Bh6 1:39 **22.f4** 24
[22.Qxb7? Rb6 23.Rb1 *(23.Qc7? Rc8-+)* 23...Rxb7-+]
22...Rec8 30 **23.Rf2** 2:52
[Avoid the trap 23.Qxb7? Rb6 24.Qxc8+ Bxc8-+]
23...Rb6 3:31 **24.Qd2** 11 **Rxd6** 35 **25.exd6** 2 **Qa3** 11 **26.Qb2** 1:36 **Qxb2**

1:13 **27.Rxb2** 0 **b6** 1 **28.Bf1** 2:23 **Bg7** 19 **29.Rd2** 2 **Rc6** 2:06
[Black should try 29...Bf8±]
30.Bb5± 42 **Rxd6** 1 **31.Bxd7** 0
White is more active. **31...Rxd7** 0
Endgame KRR-KRB **32.Kf2** 54 **Rc7** 14 **33.Ke3** 6 **Rc4** 32 **34.Rcc2** 14 **gxh5** 1:08



35.Kd3! 15 **h4** 6 **36.gxh4** 15 **Bf6** 43
[36...f5± is a better defense.]
37.h5+- 6 **h6** 3
[⌓37...Kf8 38.Re2 Ke7]
38.Re2 34 **Kf8** 12 **39.f5** 6 **Ke7** 6 **40.fxe6** 56 **fxe6** 0 **41.Re3** 0 Prevents e5. **41...Bg5** 16
[41...e5± 42.Rg2 *(42.dxe5 Bg5±)* 42...Ra4]
42.Rf3 9
[42.Re5+-]
42...e5± 33 **43.dxe5** 2 **Ke6** 10 **44.Re2** 41 And now Rf8 would win. **44...Bf4** 20 This move loses the game for Black.
[44...Be7± 45.Rff2 Ra4]
45.Rf1+- 4 **b5** 11 **46.Rb1** 22 Against b4 **46...a6** 7
[46...Rc5 47.a3 Bg5]

(Diagram)

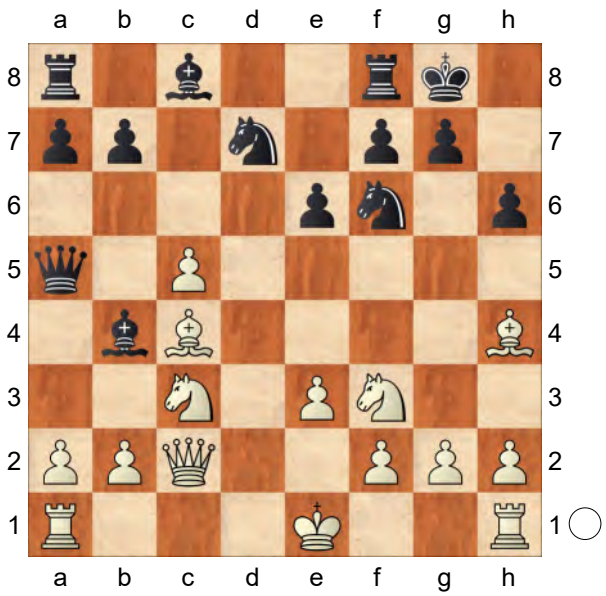


47.a3 51 **Bg5** 14 **48.Rb4** 12 White is clearly winning. **48...Rc8** 7 **49.a4** 8 **Be7** 3 **50.Rg4** 10 **Bg5** 3 **51.axb5** 3 **axb5** 0 **52.Rb4** 19 **Rb8** 3 **53.Rb1** 29 **Be7** 4 **54.Reb2** 10 **Rg8** 15 **55.Rxb5** 5 **Rg3+** 3 **56.Kc2** 1 **Rg2+** 16 **57.Kb3** 2 **Bg5** 24 **58.Re1** 12 Inhibits Re2. Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) / Black=0.30
1-0

E32
□ **Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar** **2741**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
Meltwater Tour Final rapid (4.1) 17.11.22
[TA]

1.d4 0 **Nf6** 0 **2.c4** 3 **e6** 2 **3.Nc3** 4 **Bb4** 2 **4.Qc2** 2 **d5** 5 **5.Nf3** 22 **0-0** 14 **6.Bg5** 11 **c5** 56 E32: Nimzo-Indian: Classical (4 Qc2): 4 . . . 0 - 0 . **7.dxc5** 3:13 is now debated instead of 7.e3. wird nun anstelle von 7.e3 disktutiert. **7...dxc4** 14 **8.e3** 38 **h6** 1:31 White has an edge. **9.Bh4** 35 **Nbd7** 1:15 **10.Bxc4** 1:48 **Qa5** 2

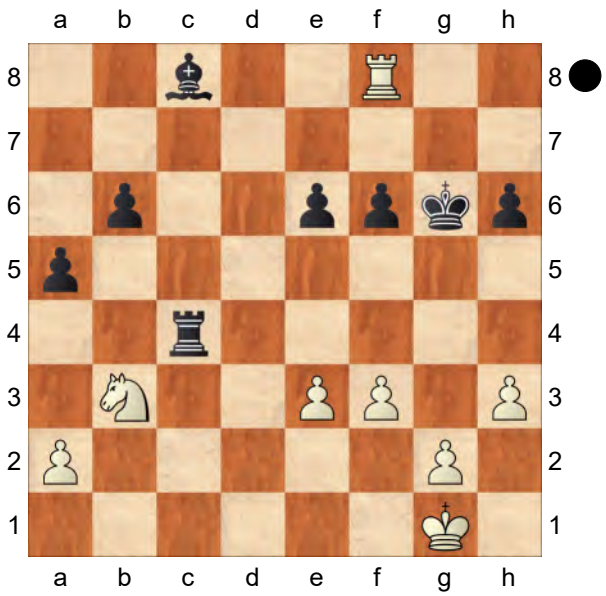
(Diagram)

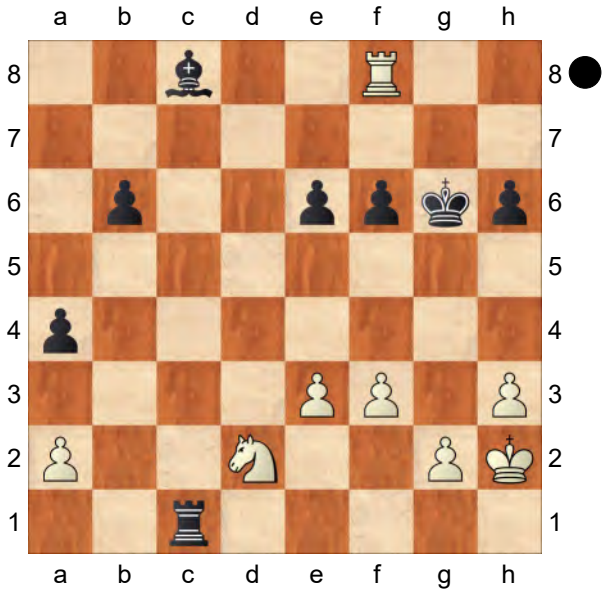


11.0-0N 49
[Vorgänger: Predecessor: Predecessor: Vorgänger: 11.c6 Ne5 12.Nxe5 Qxe5 13.0-0 Bxc3 14.Qxc3 Qxc3 15.bxc3 bxc6 16.Bxf6 gxf6 17.Rfd1 0-1 (52) Tremblay,A (2028)-Boudreau,D (1905) Montreal 2012]
11...Bxc3 9 **12.bxc3** 4 **Qxc5** 8 **13.Be2** 25 **b6** 9 **14.Rfd1** 3 **Bb7** 12 **15.c4** 24 **Rac8** 18 **16.Rac1** 2 **Rfd8** 1:52 **17.Nd4** 1:41 **Ne5** 2:05 **18.Qa4** 1:40 **a6** 1:28 **19.Nb3** 25 **Rxd1+** 1:24 **20.Rxd1** 7 **Qc7⟶** 1 Black has some attack. **21.f3** 3:47 Prevents Ne4.
[21.Nd2=]
21...Nxc4∓ 2:42 **22.Bxc4** 1:17 **Qxc4** 0 **23.Qxc4** 8 **Rxc4** 0 **24.Rd8+** 2 **Kh7** 1 **25.Bxf6** 2 **gxf6∓** 0 Endgame KRB-KRN **26.Rd7** 9 **Bc8** 1 **27.Rxf7+** 8 **Kg6** 1 **28.Rf8** 8 **a5** 38 **29.h3** 1:01
[Better is 29.Nd2∓ Rc2 30.Ne4]

(Diagram)

29...a4!∓ 54 **30.Nd2** 13 **Rc1+** 1 **31.Kh2** 2
[31.Kf2∓]





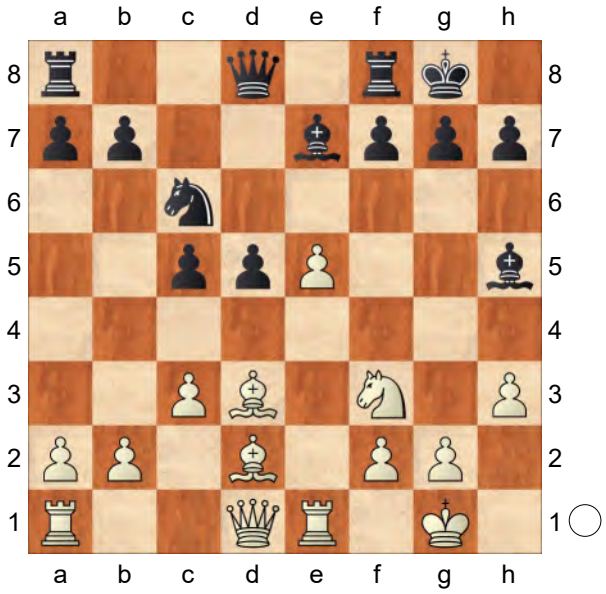
31...f5!-+ 4 **32.f4?** 24
[32.Kg3 is a better defense.]
32...Bb7 9 **33.Rb8** 22 **Bd5** 10 **34.Nf3** 3 **Bxf3?** 1:12
[Stronger than 34...Bxa2 35.Rxb6 Rc3 36.Ne5+ Kg7 37.Rb7+ Kf8 38.e4∓]
[34...a3-+ is more deadly. 35.Rxb6 *(35.Ne5+? Kg7-+)* 35...Rc2]
35.gxf3 0 KR-KR **35...Rb1** 0 ...a3 is the strong threat. **36.Kg3** 18 **b5** 3 **37.a3** 7 **Rb3** 5 **38.Rb7** 9

[38.Kf2∓]
38...Rxa3? 44
[38...h5-+ 39.Kf2 h4]
39.Rxb5∓ 1 **Rxe3** 1 **40.Ra5** 6 **a3** 1 **41.Ra7** 2 **Rb3** 18 **42.Re7** 16 **Kf6** 20
[42...a2 43.Rxe6+ Kf7 44.Ra6]
43.Ra7 1 **Rc3** 1 **44.Kf2** 16 **Rc2+** 1:02 **45.Kg3!** 1 **a2** 4 **46.h4!** 31 **Kg6** 52
[46...e5!? 47.Ra6+□ Kg7 48.fxe5 Kf7=]
47.Kh3! 1 **Kh5** 4 **48.Kg3** 1 **Re2** 20 **49.Ra6?** 3
[49.Kh3= and White is okay.]
49...Kg6 41 (→ ...Kf7) **50.Ra7** 2 **Kf6?** 25
[50...Rb2-+ And now ...Rd2 would win. 51.Kh3 Re2]
51.Kh3 13 The position is equal. **51...h5** 14
[51...Rb2!? 52.h5□ Re2=]
52.Kg3 2 **Rb2** 3 **53.Kh3!** 5 **Rc2** 6
[53...e5!? 54.Ra6+□ Ke7 55.fxe5 Kf7=]
54.Kg3 1 **Re2** 3
[54...e5!? 55.Ra6+□ Kf7 56.fxe5 Ke7=]
55.Kh3! 6 **e5** 26 White must now prevent ... e4. **56.Ra6+** 2 **Ke7** 1 **57.fxe5** 0 **f4** 0 **58.Ra7+** 10 **Ke6** 5 **59.Rxa2** 2 **Rxa2** 4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.25 (precise)
½-½

C43

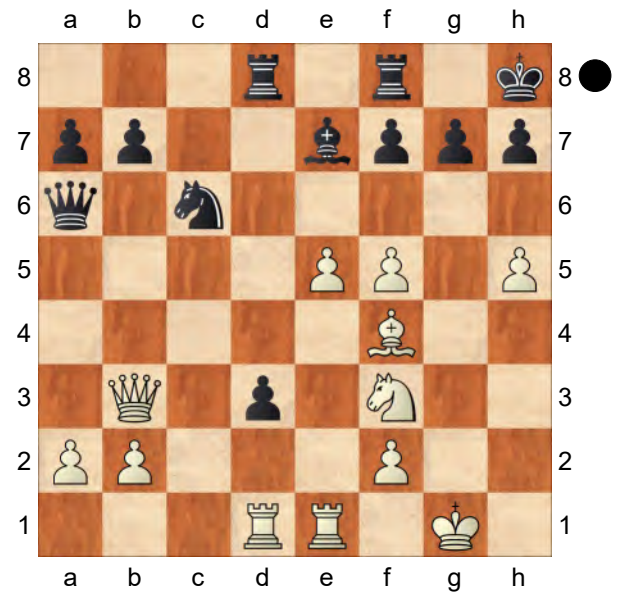
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
■ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2713**
155/111 Wijk aan Zee 2023
[Arsovic,Goran]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d4 Nxe4 4.dxe5 d5 5.Nbd2 Nxd2 6.Bxd2 Be7 7.Bd3 c5 8.c3 Nc6 9.0-0 Bg4 10.Re1 0-0
[10...Qd7 - 136/112]
11.h3 Bh5 Diagram



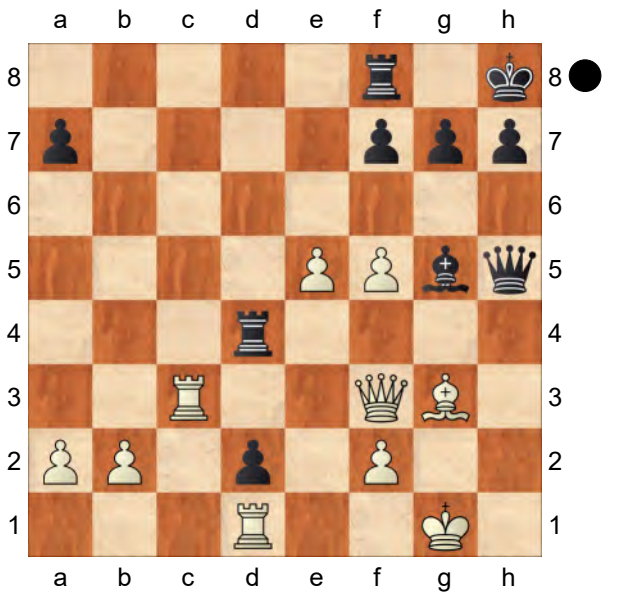
12.Bf5N
[12.Bf4]
12...Kh8 13.Qe2 Qb6 14.Bf4 Rae8
[14...d4 15.g4 Bg6 16.Qe4 Rad8 *(16...Qxb2?! 17.Rab1 Qxc3 18.Rxb7 Rac8 19.h4±)* 17.Kg2±]
15.Rad1 d4 16.g4 Bg6 17.Qc2
[17.cxd4 cxd4 *(17...Nxd4 18.Nxd4 cxd4 19.Qe4 Qxb2 20.Re2 Qb5 21.Rxd4±)* 18.Rd3 Bb4 19.Red1 Qb5 20.Qe4 Bc5 21.Rb3 Qa4 22.h4±]
17...Rd8 18.h4
[18.a3 Qa6 19.cxd4 cxd4 20.Qe4 Qc4∞]
18...Qa6! 19.cxd4 cxd4 20.Qb3
[⌓20.Re4 d3 21.Qc4 Qxc4 22.Rxc4 Bxf5 23.gxf5 Rd5 24.Rc3 Rfd8∞]
20...d3 21.h5?!
[21.Re3 Nd4 22.Nxd4 Rxd4 23.Bg3 Rfd8 24.Rd2 Bb4 25.Rdxd3 Rxd3 26.Rxd3 Rxd3 27.Bxd3 Qxd3 28.Qxb4 h5=]
21...Bxf5 22.gxf5 Diagram

(Diagram)



22...Nd4! 23.Nxd4
[23.Qxd3? Qxd3 24.Rxd3 Ne2+ 25.Rxe2 Rxd3∓]
23...Rxd4 24.Bg3 d2 25.Re3 Qh6!
[25...Bg5 26.Qa3! Qxa3 27.Rxa3 Rc8 28.Rc3 Rxc3 29.bxc3 Rd3 30.e6 fxe6 31.fxe6
A) 31...Kg8 32.Be5 Kf8 33.f4 Bh6 34.Kf2 Ke7 35.Ke2 Rd5 36.c4! *(36.Rxd2? Rxe5+ 37.fxe5 Bxd2 38.Kxd2 Kxe6-+)* 36...Rc5 37.Kf3 Ra5 38.Bb2 Kxe6 39.Rxd2 Rxh5 *(39...Rxa2 40.c5 Ra4 41.Rd6+ Ke7 42.Bd4=)* 40.Re2+ Kf5 41.Re5+ Kg6 42.Re7 Rf5 43.Bc1 Rf7 44.Re6+ Kf5 45.Re5+ Kf6 46.Be3 a6 47.c5=;
B) 31...Rxc3 32.e7 Bxe7 33.Rxd2 Kg8 34.Rd7 Bf6 35.Rxb7=]
26.Qxb7?
[26.Rd3 Rxd3 27.Qxd3 Rd8 28.Qe3 Qxh5 29.Rxd2 Rxd2 30.Qxd2 Qxf5 31.Qd5 h5∓]
26...Bg5 27.Rc3 Qxh5 28.Qf3
Diagram

(Diagram)

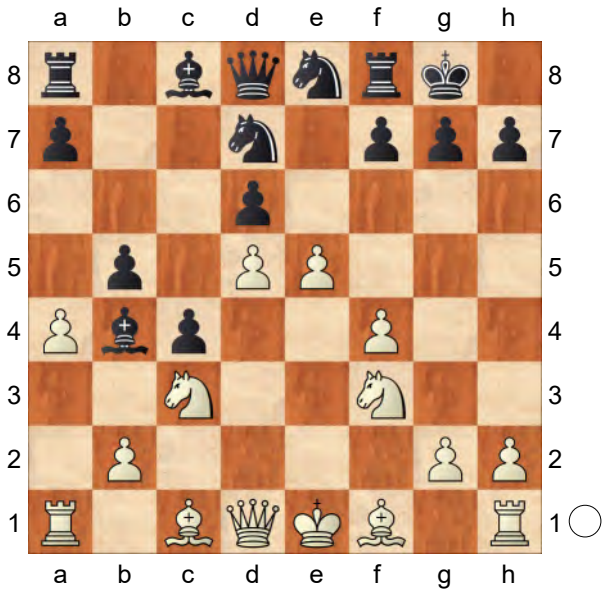


28...Qh3
[28...Qxf3! 29.Rxf3 Re4 30.Kf1 Rc8 31.Rc3 Rxc3 32.bxc3 h5-+]
29.Bh2 Rg4+ 30.Bg3 h6 31.Qg2
[31.Qh1 Rxg3+ *(31...Qxh1+ 32.Kxh1 Re8∓)* 32.fxg3 Qxf5 33.Qd5 Re8 34.Rf3 Qh3∓]
31...Qh5 32.f3 Rd4 33.Qh2 Bh4 34.Kf1 Rfd8
[34...Qg5 35.Bf2 Bxf2 36.Qxf2 Rh4-+]
35.Bf2 Re4!-+ 36.f6 gxf6 37.Qh3 Rf4 38.Bxa7 Qxe5 39.Be3 Qb5+ 40.Kg1 Qe2 41.Qf1 Rg8+ 42.Kh1 Qxf1+ 43.Rxf1 Rxf3
0-1

E20
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
■ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2713**
155/111 Wijk aan Zee 2023
[Arsovic,G, Kitty Kat]

Kitty Kat: 'E20: Nimzo-Indian: 4 g3 and 4 f3
' **1.d4** Kitty Kat **1...Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 c5 5.d5 0-0 6.e4 b5 7.e5**

[7.cxb5 Kitty Kat exd5 8.exd5 a6∓]
7...Ne8 8.f4
[8.cxb5 Kitty Kat a6]
8...exd5 Kitty Kat: 'The position is equal.' **9.cxd5 d6** Kitty Kat: ' White must now prevent ...d6xe5.' **10.Nf3 c4 11.a4 Nd7** Diagram

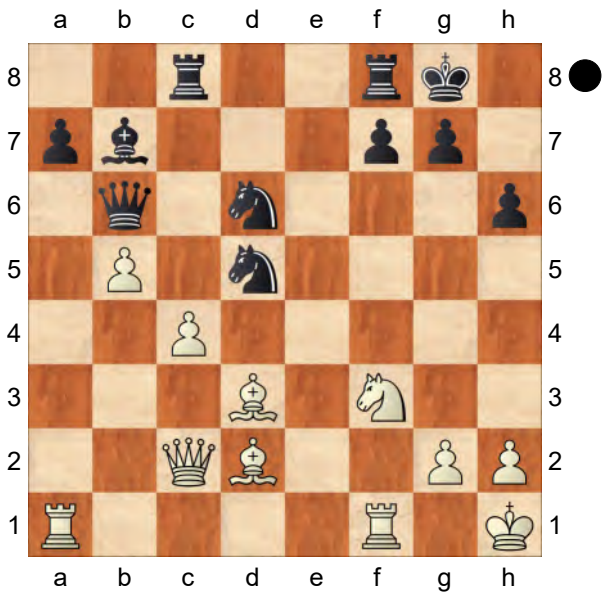


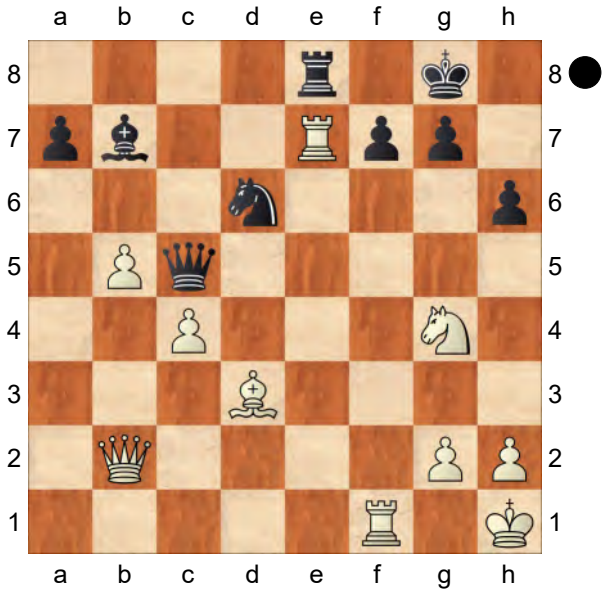
12.axb5N
[12.Be2 Kitty Kat Qb6 13.Bd2 Nc7 14.Nxb5 Nxd5 15.Bxb4 Nxb4 16.Nxd6 Ba6 17.Qd2 Nc5 18.a5 Qb8 19.0-0 Nb3 20.Qe3 Nxa1 21.Ng5 h6 22.Nf5 Qc7 23.Ne4 f6 24.Qg3 Kh8 25.exf6 Rxf6 26.Nxf6 Qc5+ Gazi,M (2759)-Twyble,M (2772) Warsaw 1928 (1.11) 1-0]
12...dxe5 Kitty Kat: '!' **13.Bxc4**
[13.fxe5 Kitty Kat Nxe5 14.Be2 *(14.Nxe5 Qh4+ 15.Ke2 Nf6-+)* 14...Nxf3+ 15.Bxf3 Nd6=]
13...Nd6 14.Be2 exf4 Kitty Kat: 'N'
[14...Qb6 Kitty Kat: '!?' 15.Bd2 Bxc3 16.Bxc3 Ne4 17.Rf1∓ Nxc3 18.bxc3 Qc5∓ 19.c4! Re8 20.Rf2 e4 21.Nd4 e3 22.Rf3 Nb6 23.Nc6-+ Re4]
[14...e4 Kitty Kat 15.Nd4 Nf6 16.Nc6 Bxc3+ 17.bxc3 Qb6 18.c4 Nf5 19.Qd2 Bd7 20.Qc3 Bxc6 21.bxc6 h5 22.Ba3 Rfe8 23.Qb2 Qe3 24.Qd2 Qb3 25.Bc5 Rad8 26.0-0 Nxd5 27.cxd5 Rxd5 28.Qc1 Rdd8 29.c7 Kroggel,J (2474)-Fischer,O (2352) 94/(401) Paks 2005 (2.3) 1-0]
15.0-0 Kitty Kat: '!' **15...Bb7** 0.96/23
[Black should try 15...Bc5+± 0.33/22 Kitty Kat 16.Kh1 Qf6]
16.Bxf4 Kitty Kat: '±' Kitty Kat: ' Hoping for Nf3-d4.' **16...Nf6** 1.45/22
[⌓16...Nf5 0.80/21 Kitty Kat]
17.Bd3 0.23/22
[17.Qd4± 1.45/22 Kitty Kat Bxc3 18.bxc3 Nxd5 19.Bxd6 *(19.Rxa7? Nxf4 20.Bd1 Rxa7-+)* 19...Qxd6 20.c4 *(20.Rxa7 Rxa7 21.Qxa7 Nxc3=)*]
17...Bxc3 Kitty Kat: '=' **18.bxc3 Nxd5!** Kitty Kat: ' Excellent horsemanship.'
19.Bd2 Rc8 20.Qc2 h6 21.c4?! -0.57/25
[21.Rxa7? Kitty Kat Qb6+ 22.Nd4 Qxa7-+]
[21.Qb3= -0.12/21 Kitty Kat]
21...Qb6+ 0.08/24
[21...Nxc4!∓ -0.57/25 Kitty Kat 22.Bxc4 Nb6 23.Rxa7 Nxc4 *(23...Rxc4 24.Qa2∓)*]
22.Kh1 Diagram

(Diagram)

22...Ne3! 23.Bxe3 Qxe3 24.Rae1 Qc5 25.Ne5 Kitty Kat: ' Strongly threatening Ne5-d7.'
[25.Re5 (Kitty Kat) simplifies Qc7 26.Rc1 Rfe8 27.Rxe8+ Nxe8 28.c5]
25...Rfe8! 26.Qb2? Rc7 27.Ng4 Rce7
[27...Nxc4 Kitty Kat 28.Rxe8+]
28.Rxe7 Diagram

(Diagram)

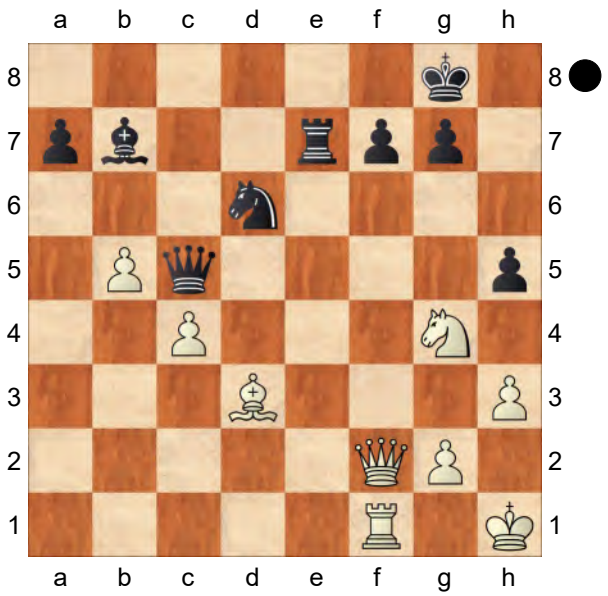




28...Rxe7 29.h3 -2.63/23 Kitty Kat: '?'
[29.Qf2!∓ -0.39/22 Kitty Kat Qc7 30.Qg3]
29...h5 Kitty Kat: '-+'
[29...Nxc4 Kitty Kat 30.Qc2 Bd5 31.Rd1∓]
30.Qf2 Kitty Kat: '

(Diagram)

' **30...Qg5**
[30...Qa3 Kitty Kat 31.Qg3 Kf8 *(31...hxg4? 32.Bh7+* Discovered



Attack *Kxh7 33.Qxa3+-)* 32.Nf2= *(32.Ne5 Be4∓* Remove Defender *)*]
31.Nh2 Re3 32.h4 Qe5 33.Rd1 -5.17/23
[33.c5 -2.72/23 (Kitty Kat) only move. Qxc5 34.Nf3]
33...Ne4 -0.10/22 Kitty Kat: '?'
[33...Rg3-+ -5.17/23 Kitty Kat 34.Bf1 Rh3 Discovered Attack]
34.Bxe4 Kitty Kat: '=' **34...Qxe4 35.Nf3** Kitty Kat: ' ⟶' Kitty Kat: ' Against Qe4-e5. White is up to no good.'
[35.Rd7 (Kitty Kat) is interesting. Re1+ 36.Nf1 Qxg2+ 37.Qxg2 Rxf1+ 38.Kh2]
35...f6!-+ 0.84/25
[35...Rxf3= 0.00/25 Kitty Kat 36.Rd8+ Kh7 37.gxf3 *(37.Qxf3 Qe1+ 38.Kh2 Bxf3 39.Rd3 Qxh4+ 40.Kg1 Qe1+ 41.Kh2 Bxg2* Decoy *42.Kxg2 Qe2+ 43.Kg3 Qxd3+ 44.Kf2 Qd2+ 45.Kf1 h4 46.b6 axb6 47.Kg1 h3 48.Kf1 h2 49.c5 h1Q#)* 37...Qxc4]
36.Qg3 0.00/29
[36.c5± 0.84/25 (Kitty Kat) And now c5-c6 would win. Kh7 37.c6]
36...Qe7 Kitty Kat: ' ...Re3-c3 would now be deadly.'

[36...Qxc4 Kitty Kat 37.Qb8+ Bc8 38.Rd8+ *(38.Qxa7 Rxf3 39.Rd8+ Kh7∓)* 38...Kh7 39.Rxc8+- *(39.Qxc8 Qxc8 40.Rxc8 Re4+-)*]

37.Rf1 -0.44/24

[37.Qd6= 0.00/29 Kitty Kat]

37...Re4 -0.02/22

[37...Bxf3∓ -0.44/24 Kitty Kat 38.Rxf3 Re4]

38.c5 -0.86/25

[38.Re1= -0.02/22 (Kitty Kat) keeps the balance.]

38...Bd5 0.06/27

[38...Qxc5∓ -0.86/25 Kitty Kat 39.Qb8+ Bc8]

39.c6 -0.45/24

[39.Rc1= 0.06/27 Kitty Kat]

39...Rc4 0.57/26

[39...Qc5!∓ -0.45/24 Kitty Kat 40.c7 Rc4 *(40...Qxb5? perishes. 41.c8Q+ Re8 42.Qc1+-)*]

40.Re1 0.00/29

[40.Rd1± 0.57/26 Kitty Kat Bxf3 41.Qxf3]

40...Qd8 2.50/23 Kitty Kat: '?' Kitty Kat: '

[40...Qc5= 0.00/29 (Kitty Kat) and Black has nothing to worry. 41.Qg6 Bf7]

(Diagram)

' **41.Rd1** Kitty Kat: '+-!' Kitty Kat: ' Threatens to win with Qg3-g6.' **41...Rc5**

42.Qf2 0.86/21 Kitty Kat: '?'

[42.Qg6+- 2.48/24 (Kitty Kat) and White stays clearly on top.]

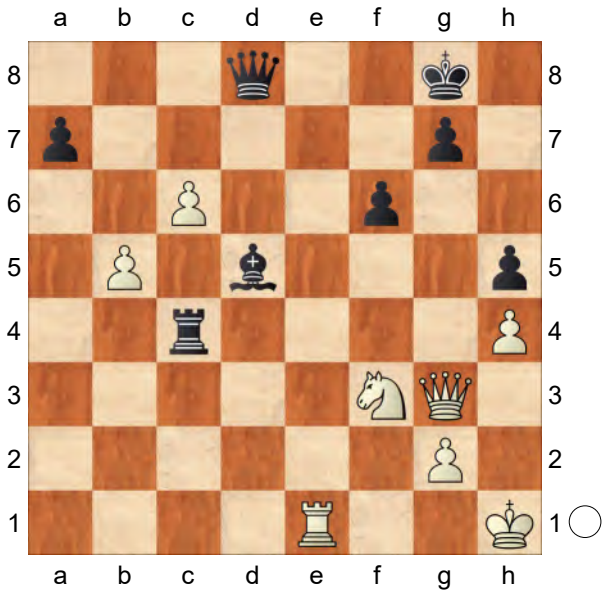
42...Rxb5 2.14/22

[42...Qe7± 0.86/21 Kitty Kat]

43.Nd4 0.00/29 Kitty Kat: '?'

[White must play 43.Qxa7+- 2.14/22 Kitty Kat Qa5 44.Qxa5 Rxa5 45.c7]

43...Bxc6 44.Rc1 Be8 45.Nxb5 Bxb5



46.Qxa7-+ Be2 8.11/23 Kitty Kat: '?'

[46...Qd2= 0.05/25 Kitty Kat 47.Qa8+ Kh7 48.Qe4+ Kg8]

47.Qa2+ Kitty Kat: ' White used his chance.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/ Black=0.45. Loss on time!?'

0-1

B06

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**

■ **Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar** **2741**

Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (4.4)

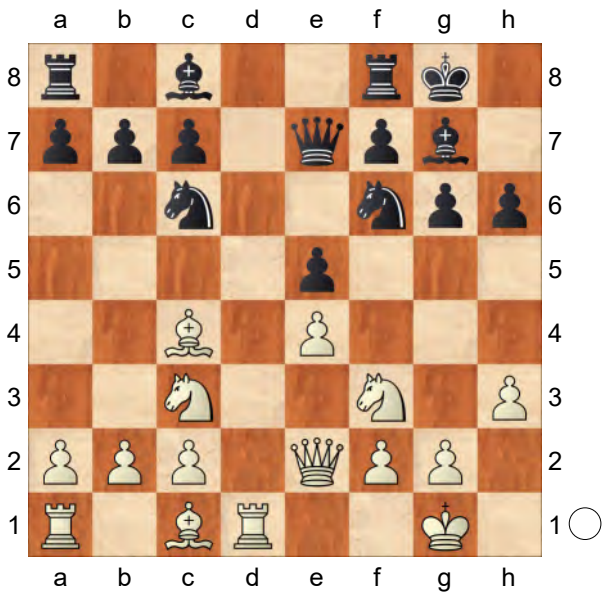
[TA]

Rapid 15min+10sec **1.e4** 0 **g6** 0 **2.d4** 8 **Bg7** 1 **3.Nf3** 2 **d6** 15 **4.Bc4** 5 **Nf6** 9 **5.Qe2** 1 **Nc6** 22 **6.h3** 3 **e5** 13 B06: Modern Defence. **7.dxe5** 2 **dxe5** 2 **8.0-0** 15 **0-0** 4 White has an edge. **9.Rd1** 41 **Qe7** 1 **10.Nc3** 20 **h6** 27

(Diagram)

Against Bg5 **11.Nd5N** 53

[Predecessor: 11.a3 Kh7 12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.exd5 Nd8 14.Be3 f5 15.b4



Nf7 16.Bb3 Nd6 17.c4 1-0 (36) Babic,Z (2153) -Markovic,V (2175) Croatia 2015]

11...Nxd5 2 **12.Bxd5** 0 **Nd4** 34 **13.Nxd4** 59 **exd4** 0 **14.Bf4** 1 **Re8** 15 **15.e5** 33 **c6** 1:22

[15...Qc5 is interesting. 16.Qe4 c6 17.Bb3 Be6]

16.Bb3 1 **c5** 16 **17.Qd2** 52

[17.c3=]

17...g5 49 **18.Bg3** 1 **Be6** 12

[18...Bxe5? 19.Bxe5 Bxh3 20.Bxd4+-]

19.Bxe6 1:15 **Qxe6** 0 **20.f4** 1 **gxf4** 30 **21.Bxf4** 0 **Qg6** 1:57 **22.Rf1** 31 **Bxe5** 24 **23.Bxh6** 2 **Re6** 6 **24.Bf4** 6 **Rae8** 1:31 **25.Rf3** 2:15 Hoping for Rg3. **25...Bg7** 1:11 aiming for ...Re2. **26.Rg3** 2 **Qh7** 1:22 **27.Rf1** 2 **Re2?** 1:17 This costs Black the game.

[27...Qe4= and Black is okay.]

28.Qa5!+- 2 **Rxc2?** 21

[28...Qxc2? 29.Bh6 Kh7 30.Bxg7+-]

[28...R2e6]

29.Qxa7? 1:50

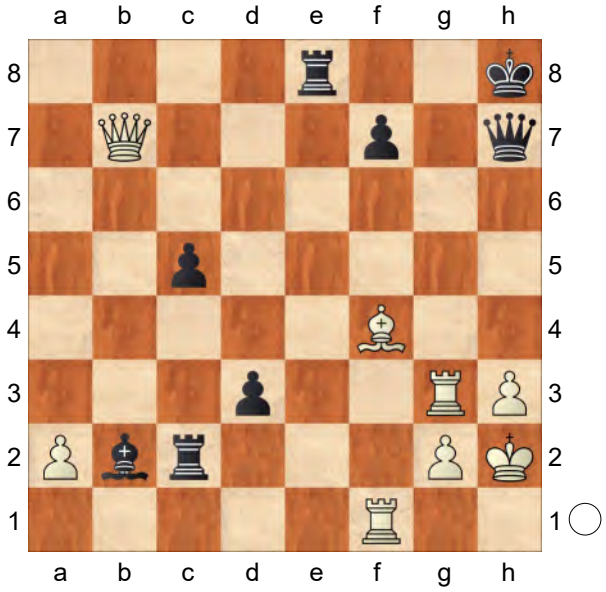
[29.Be5 White wants to mate with Qc7. Rf8 30.Rxg7+ Qxg7 31.Bxg7]

29...Kh8? 47

[29...Rce2 is a better defense. 30.Kh2 *(30.Qxc5 Re1+-)* 30...R2e6 31.Qxb7 *(31.Qxc5 Qe4±)* 31...Qh5]

30.Qxb7 10 Black must now prevent Bd6. **30...d3** 2 **31.Kh2** 1:51 **Bd4?** 16

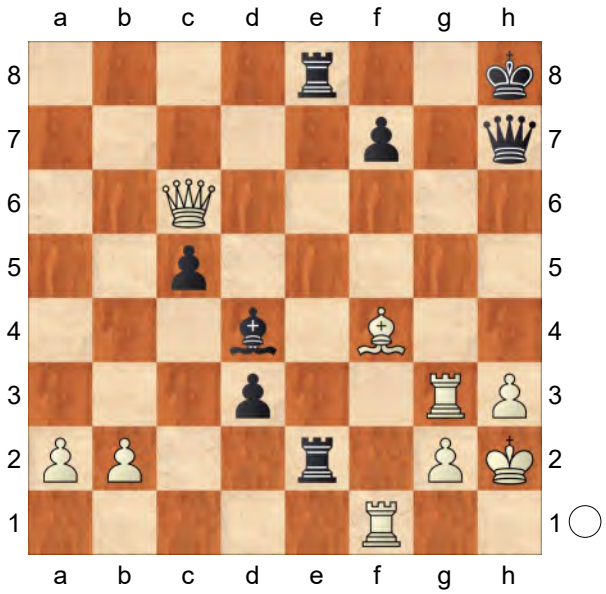
[31...Bxb2?



32.Re1!! Rf8 33.Qe7+-]

[31...Rce2 32.Qd5 R2e6 33.Qxc5 *(33.Rxd3 Bxb2 34.Bg3 Qe4+-; 33.Qxd3 Qxd3 34.Rxd3 Bxb2±)* 33...Bxb2]

32.Qc6 30 **Rce2** 56



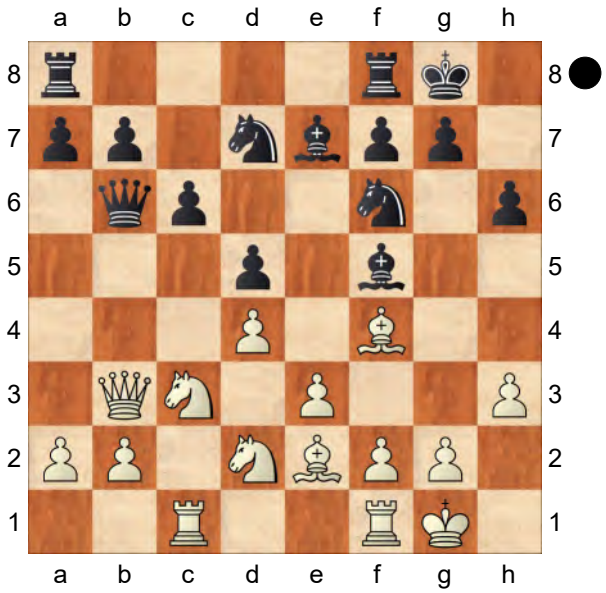
33.Be5+! 11 Weighted Error Value:

White=0.31/Black=0.51
1-0

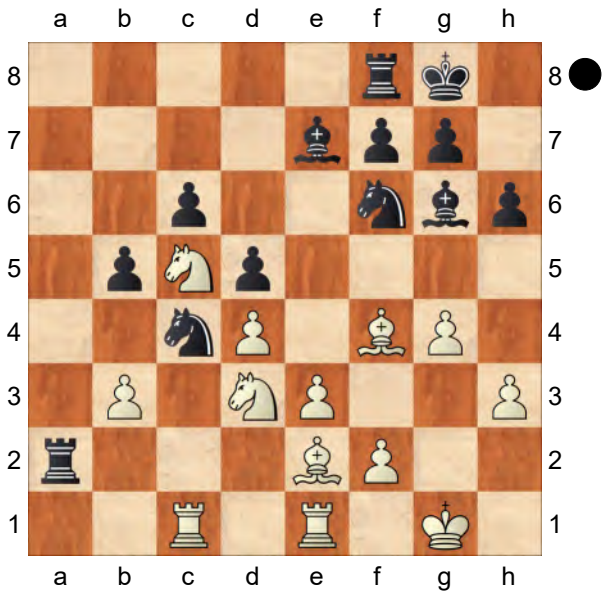
D38

□ **Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar** **2741**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (4.3)
[TA]

Rapid 15min+10sec **1.d4** 0 **Nf6** 0 **2.c4** 1 **e6** 2 **3.Nc3** 1 **Bb4** 1 **4.Nf3** 0 **d5** 23 **5.cxd5** 21 **exd5** 3 **6.Bf4** 2 D38: Queen's Gambit Declined: Ragozin Defence (4 Nf3 Bb4). **6...0-0** 19 6...Ne4 deserves study. **7.e3** 6 **Bf5** 11 **8.Rc1** 47 White has an edge.
[8.Qb3!? Nc6 9.Be2=]
8...c6 30 **9.Qb3** 8 **Qb6** 13 **10.Be2** 4 **Be7** 17 **11.Nd2** 7 **Nbd7** 29 **12.0-0** 2 **h6** 22 **13.h3** 1



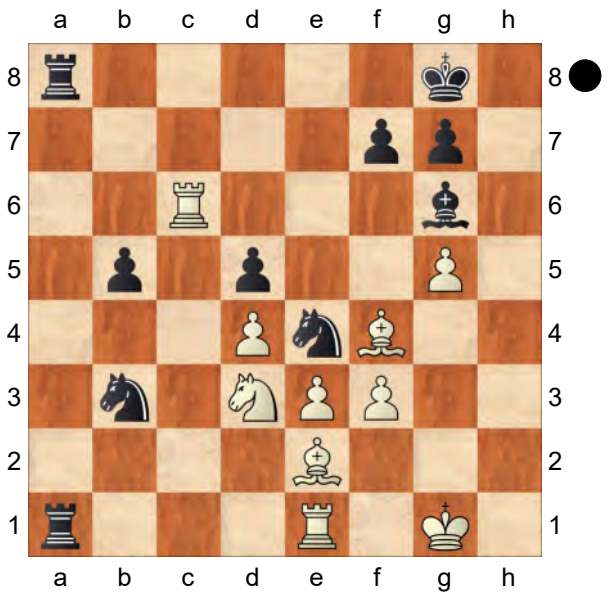
Qxb3N 28
[Predecessor: 13...Rfe8 14.Rfe1 Bf8 15.Na4 Qa5 16.Nf3 Qb4 17.Qxb4 Bxb4 18.Red1 Ne4 19.Bd3 Be6 1-0 (58) Guo,Q (2396) -Karavade,E (2384) Riadh 2017]
14.Nxb3 5 Strongly threatening g4.
14...a5 0 **15.Na4** 8 **b5** 57 **16.Nac5** 2 **Nb6** 0 **17.g4** 2:45 **Bg6** 41 **18.Nd3** 31 **a4** 42 **19.Nbc5** 1:14 **Nc4** 1:00 **20.b3** 2:38 **axb3** 0 **21.axb3** 1 **Ra2** 1:43 **22.Rfe1** 5



Black must now prevent Nb4. **22...Bxc5** 19 **23.Nxc5** 9 **Nd2** 4 **24.h4** 2:29 **Rfa8** 2:57 **25.g5** 28
[25.f3!?]
25...hxg5 0 **26.hxg5** 1 **Nfe4** 45 **27.Nd3** 1:45
[27.Nxe4= Bxe4 28.Rxc6]
27...Nxb3 3:14
[27...c5!∓ 28.Nxc5 b4]
28.Rxc6= 4 **Ra1** 1 **29.f3?** 1:16
[29.Rxa1= Rxa1+ 30.Kg2]

(Diagram)

29...Nxg5!∓ 27 Pair of Knights! **30.Rxa1** 1:27
[30.Kf1 Nxf3]
30...Rxa1+ 0 **31.Kf2** 1 **Ne6** 51
[31...Nh3+-+ 32.Kg2 Bf5]
32.Bd6↑ 59 White fights for an advantage. **32...Ra2** 49 Threatens to win with ...Bxd3. **33.Nb4** 29 **Rb2** 6



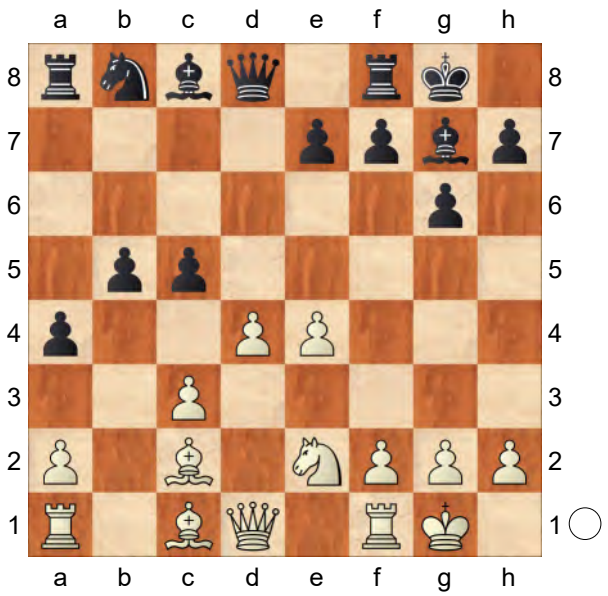
34.Ke1 21
[White should try 34.Rc3=]
34...Rb1+ 29
[34...Kh7∓ 35.Rc8 *(35.Bxb5 Ng5∓)* 35...Ng5]
35.Kf2 1 **Rb2** 31 **36.Ke1** 1:59
[White should play 36.Rc3=]
36...Rb1+ 44
[36...Kh7!∓ 37.Rc8 *(37.Bxb5 Ng5=)* 37...Ng5]
37.Kf2 21 **Rb2** 22 Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.16 (very precise)
½-½

D85
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2731**
Meltwater Tour Final rapid (1.2) 14.11.22
[TA]

1.d4 0 **Nf6** 0 **2.c4** 2 **g6** 1 **3.Nc3** 5 **d5** 1 **4.cxd5** 1 **Nxd5** 0 **5.e4** 1 **Nxc3** 0 **6.bxc3** 0 **Bg7** 1 **7.Bb5+** 1 **c6** 15 **8.Ba4** 1 **0-0** 4 **9.Ne2** 2 **b5** 24 **10.Bb3** 2 **a5!** 1 is currently scoring better than 10...Bb7. D85: Exchange Grünfeld: Unusual White 7th moves and lines with 7 Nf3. now scores much better than the old 10...Bb7. punktet besser als das ältere 10...Lb7. **11.0-0** 3 **a4** 2
[I quite liked 11...Ba6 in my ChessPublishing analysis from 2021, but there haven't been any further games.]
[After 11...Nd7 (which seems to be the most popular) then the critical move is perhaps 12.e5!? *(I looked at the following encounter last year: 12.a3 e5 13.Be3 Qe7 14.f3 Ba6 15.Re1* Lupulescu, C - Ivic, V Reykjavik 2021, (see the archives) and now I suggest that *a4! 16.Bc2 Rfd8* would be a good way to continue, with the better options for Black*)* 12...Nb6 13.h4 *(13.Nf4!?* helps compete for the d5-square*)* 13...a4 14.Bc2 h5 *(*maybe *14...f6!* hitting back at the centre*)* 15.Nf4 Nd5 16.Nxd5 Qxd5 17.Ba3 Re8 18.Qe2 Bg4 19.f3 Be6 20.g4 Parligras, M - Papadiamandis, E French league 2022, with double-edged play in prospect.]
12.Bc2 2 **c5** 0
[Here's an alternative plan which involves ensuring a grip on the c4-square: 12...Nd7 13.Rb1 Nb6 14.Bd3 Be6 against which there doesn't seem to be any objective advantage: 15.Qc2 Bc4 16.Ba3 Re8 17.f4 e6= Wang, A - Burke, J St.Louis 2018.]

(Diagram)

13.Rb1N 53 Flear,Glenn: 'This is new.'
[Vorgänger: Predecessor: Flear, Glenn: 'Previously they've played'



13.Be3 Flear,Glenn: 'here:' cxd4 14.cxd4 Nd7 *(*better is *14...Nc6!* pressing against the d4-square. A notable choice, as it can be convenient to get White to advance early: *15.d5 Ne5 16.Bd4 e6 17.f4 Nc4 18.Bxg7 Kxg7 19.Qd4+ Kg8=* Korotylev, A - Notkin, M Moscow 1996 *)* 15.Rb1 Ba6 16.Bd3 Qa5 17.a3 Rfb8 18.Bd2 Qd8 19.Bb4 0-1 (56) Abdyjapar,A (2346)-Paravyan, D (2617) Chess.com INT 2022 0-1 (56) Abdyjapar,A (2346)-Paravyan,D (2617) Chess.com INT 2022 Nb6 20.d5 Nc4 Abdyjapar, A - Paravyan, D Titled Tuesday online blitz 2022, is complex but Black's queenside is stymied, whereas White's centre has potential.]

13...Ba6 1:58 **14.d5** 2:48 **Nd7** 18 **15.h4** 42 **Qa5** 1:49

[One could also counter with 15...Ne5 16.h5 e6= reacting in the centre.]

16.h5 2:16 **b4** 55 Flear,Glenn: '!?' Flear, Glenn: 'Here the queenside starts to get rolling, but this is double-edged, as the b-pawn might potentially become weak.'

[Don't do 16...gxh5 17.Ng3±]

[Possible is 16...Rfb8 keeping any further advance in reserve.]

17.cxb4! 10 **cxb4** 0 **18.Bd2** 13 **Bc3** 2:40

[Curiously, the engine prefers 18...Qc7!? 19.Bxb4 Ne5 and then the even more inhuman line 20.d6 exd6 21.Bxd6 Qa5⩲ which it claims is still about equal, despite the fact that Black is going to be down on material. I can't imagine many GMs going down this road!]

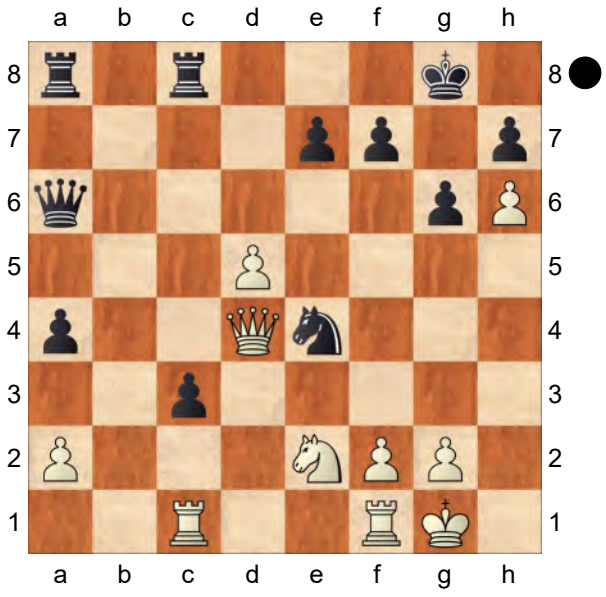
19.Bxc3 1:21 **bxc3** 0 **20.Bd3** 1 **Rfc8** 41 **21.Rc1** 12 **Nc5** 2:49 Flear,Glenn: '!' Flear,Glenn: 'The counterplay in the centre keeps White on his toes.'

[Resist 21...gxh5 22.Bxa6 Qxa6 23.Rxc3± *(23.Nxc3 Ne5±)*]

22.Bxa6 6 **Qxa6** 0 **23.h6** 4:14 Flear,Glenn: '!?'

[Following 23.Nxc3 Black obtains a draw with Nd3 24.Rc2 Nb4 etc.]

23...Nxe4 14 **24.Qd4** 2



Nf6 4 **25.Nxc3** 3 Threatens to win with Ne4. **25...Qc4** 1:11 **26.Qe5** 2:06 **Qh4** 1:08 Flear,Glenn: '!?' Flear,Glenn: 'Something of a risky attempt to complicate.'

[Instead, 26...Qc7= is solid enough, if that is what one desires.]

27.Qxe7 1:10 Strongly threatening Ne4!

27...Re8 5 **28.Qd6** 24

[28.g3!? Qd4 29.Qc7±]

28...Rad8 39 **29.Qg3** 45 **Qxh6** 26 Flear,Glenn: 'Material equality is restored with neither side really in ascendance.' **30.Rcd1** 13 **Nh5** 2:18 **31.Qf3** 41 **Qf4** 5 Inhibits Rd4. **32.Rd3** 30 **Rd6** 1:03 **33.Rfd1** 10 **Rc8** 52

[33...Kg7= deserves consideration.]

34.Ne4 12

[34.g4± Flear,Glenn: '!?' Qxf3 35.Rxf3]

34...Rdd8= 20 **35.g4** 36 **f5** 9 Flear,Glenn: '?'

[35...Rc4= keeps the balance.]

[Instead 35...Qxf3 36.Rxf3 Rc4!= holds the balance.]

36.Nf6+!± 5 **Kh8** 13

And now ...Qxf3 would win. **37.Nxh5** 42

[Better is Flear,Glenn: 'Erigaisi should have preferred' 37.gxh5± Flear,Glenn: '!' Flear,Glenn: 'e.g.' Qg5+ 38.Kf1 Qxf6 39.hxg6 hxg6 40.Qf4 with some advantage (a4 is weak and Black's king is the more vulnerable monarch).]

37...Qxf3= 2 The position is equal.

38.Rxf3 0 Ng3 is the strong threat.

38...fxg4 7 Flear,Glenn: '!' **39.Rf7** 0 White wants to mate with Nf6. **39...gxh5** 1 Endgame KRR-KRR **40.d6** 1 **Rc6** 28 **41.d7** 4 **Re6** 0 Prevents Re1. Flear, Glenn: '=!' Flear,Glenn: 'A fine defensive move (stopping R-e7-e8+).' **42.Rd5** 32 **Kg8** 3 **43.Rf4** 3 **Re7** 7 **44.Rfd4** 20 **Rg7** 32 **45.Kg2** 3 **h4** 12 Flear,Glenn: '!' Flear, Glenn: 'Not the only way, but this stops White's king marching up the board.' **46.Rxa4** 1 **h3+** 19 **47.Kg3** 32 Hoping for Ra8! **47...Rgxd7** 0

[47...Kf7 with more complications. 48.Re4 Kf6 49.Rd6+ Kf7]

48.Rxg4+ 7 **Kh8** 3 **49.Rxd7** 17 **Rxd7** 0 KR-KR **50.a4** 5 Flear,Glenn: 'The endgame is already well on the way to a draw.' **50...Rd3+** 5 **51.Kh2** 9 **Rf3** 6 **52.Kg1** 10 **h2+** 20 **53.Kxh2** 1 **Rxf2+** 1 **54.Rg2** 2 **Rf5** 2 **55.Ra2** 3 **Ra5** 1 **56.Kg3** 1 **Kg7** 3 **57.Kf4** 1 **Kf6** 0 **58.Ke4** 1 **Ke6** 1 **59.Kd4** 1 **Kd6** 0 **60.Kc4** 1 **Kc6** 12 **61.Kb4** 1 **Rg5** 3 **62.a5** 11 **Rg4+** 2 **63.Kc3** 2 **Kb7** 4 **64.Rh2** 3 **Ka6** 3 **65.Rxh7** 9 **Kxa5** 1

Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)

½-½

A11

□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2731**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**

Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (1.1)

[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 15min+10sec A11: English Opening: 1...c6

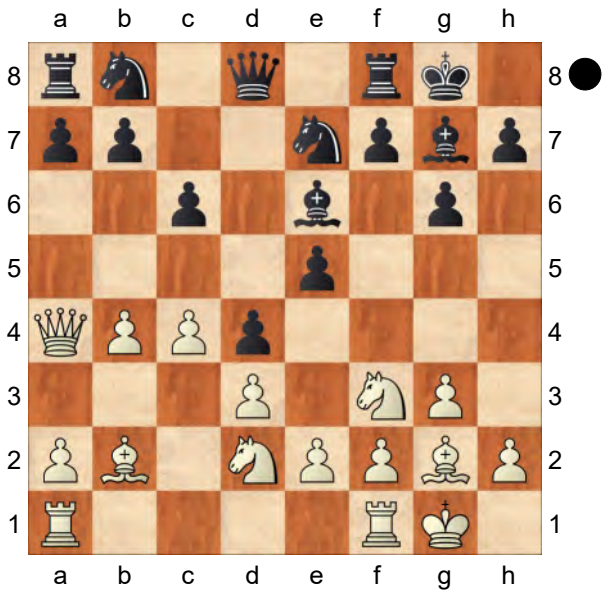
1.c4 0 **c6** 0 **2.Nf3** 5 **d5** 2 **3.g3** 1 **g6** 22 **4.Qa4** 3

[4.Bg2 Bg7 5.0-0 Nf6 6.b3 Ne4 7.d4 0-0 8.Bb2 Bf5 9.Nh4 Be6 10.Qc2 Nf6 11.Nd2 a5 12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Bxe4 Nd7 15.Rfe1 Nf6 16.Bg2 a4 17.Bc3 axb3 18.axb3 Rxa1 Sikorova,J (2725)-6.dc5 (2643) 153/100 Chicago 2022 (8) 1-0]

4...d4 45 **5.b4** 8 **Bg7N** 1

[5...Nd7 6.Bb2 e5 7.e3 Bg7 8.exd4 e4 9.Ne5 Nb6 10.Qb3 f6 11.c5 fxe5 12.cxb6 exd4 13.bxa7 Rxa7 A 11/04 2000]

6.Bb2 5 A11: English Opening: 1...c6. **6...e5** 9 And now ...e4 would win. Threatens to win with ...e5-e4. **7.d3** 18 **Ne7** 7 **8.Bg2** 2 The position is equal. The position is equal. **8...0-0** 2 **9.0-0** 4 **Be6** 22 **10.Nbd2** 12



Nd7N 32

[Predecessor: 10...h6 11.b5 -0.40/24 *(11.Rfe1= -0.01/23)* 11...c5∓ 12.Qc2 Nd7 13.e3 f5 0.27/23 *(13...g5∓ -0.41/22)* 14.exd4= exd4 15.Rfe1 0.19/21 *(15.Rae1± 0.61/21 was preferrable. Bf7 16.Nh4)* 15...Bf7= 16.h4 Nc8 0.59/23 0-1 (47) Mamedyarov,S (2782)-Aronian,L (2782) chess24.com INT 2021 *(16...f4= 0.14/23 is more appropriate.)*]

11.Qc2 47 **a5** 17 **12.a3** 58 **h6** 12 **13.Nb3** 1:12 **a4** 1:33 **14.Nbxd4** -1.18/23 38 **exd4∓** 2 **15.Nxd4** 0 **Nf5** -0.70/22 1:35

[15...Nc5! 16.Nxc6 -1.89/24 *(16.Nxe6∓ -1.03/22 Nxe6 17.Bxg7 Nxg7 18.e3)* 16...Nxc6-+ 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.bxc5 Nd4!∓]

[15...Nc5∓ -1.15/22 16.Nxe6 Nxe6]

16.Nxf5 -1.59/23 1:08

[16.Nxe6∓ fxe6 17.d4]

[Only move: 16.Nxe6∓ -0.70/22 fxe6 17.d4]

16...gxf5 1:41

[16...Bxf5 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.e4∓]

17.Bxg7 2:25 **Kxg7** 0 **18.Rfd1** -2.01/21 2

[18.Rab1∓ -1.58/18]

18...Qf6 24 **19.e3** 1:09 **Ne5** 53 **20.Qe2** -2.49/20 16

[20.f4∓ Ng4 21.Qe2]

[⌓20.Rab1 -1.99/22]

20...Rad8!-+ 1:27 aiming for ...Rxd3!

21.Rac1 2 **b5!** 11 **22.cxb5** 2:41

[22.f4? -4.99/21 22.c4xb5 -2.44 Nxd3! 23.Rxd3 Bxc4 24.Rxc4 bxc4-+]

22...cxb5 0 **23.Rc5** 1

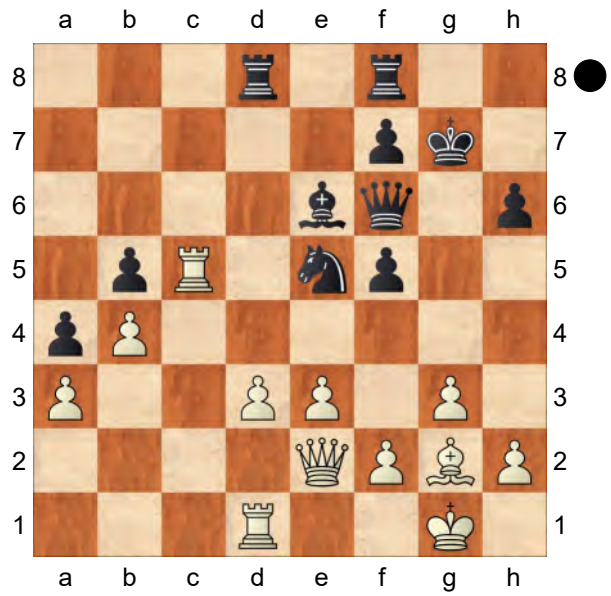
(Diagram)

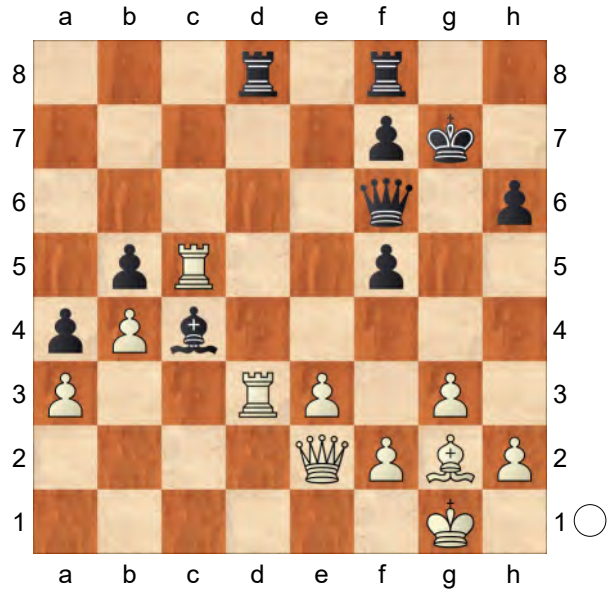
Nxd3 -0.19/21 2:26 **24.Rxd3=** 0 Bg2-d5 would now be deadly. **24...Bc4** 0.11/25 1

[24...Qa1+!∓ -0.40/26 25.Qf1 Qa2]

(Diagram)

25.Bd5! 47 **Bxd3** 1:06 **26.Qxd3** 0 **Rd6**

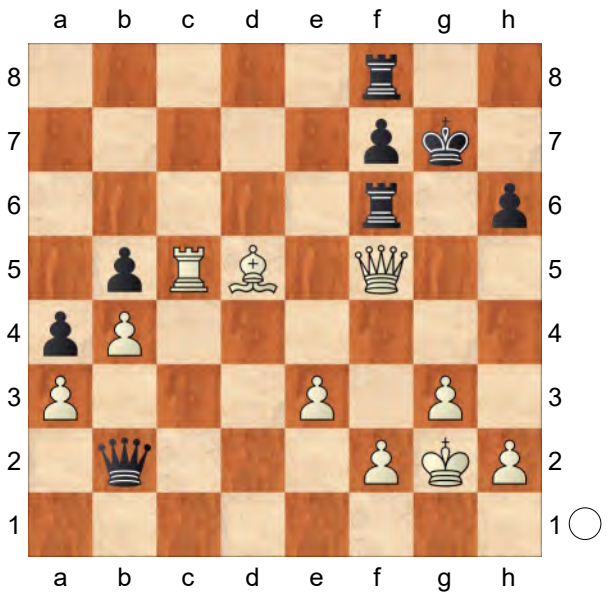




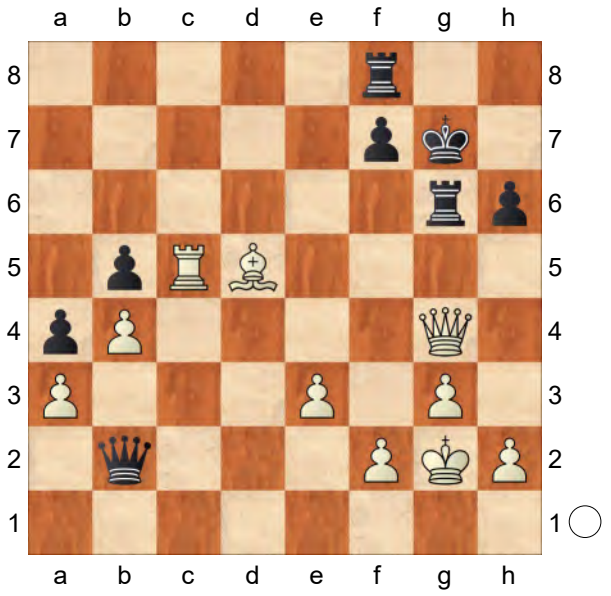
33
[26...Rc8!?]
27.Kg2! 1:05 **Qb2** 1.21/27 12
[27...Rfd8± 0.38/30]
28.Qxf5± 1:15 Qd3 is the strong threat. aiming for Rc5-c2.
[28.Rxb5 Rfd8]
28...Rf6 1:14

(Diagram)

29.Qg4+ 1
[Much weaker is 29.Qc2 0.08/25

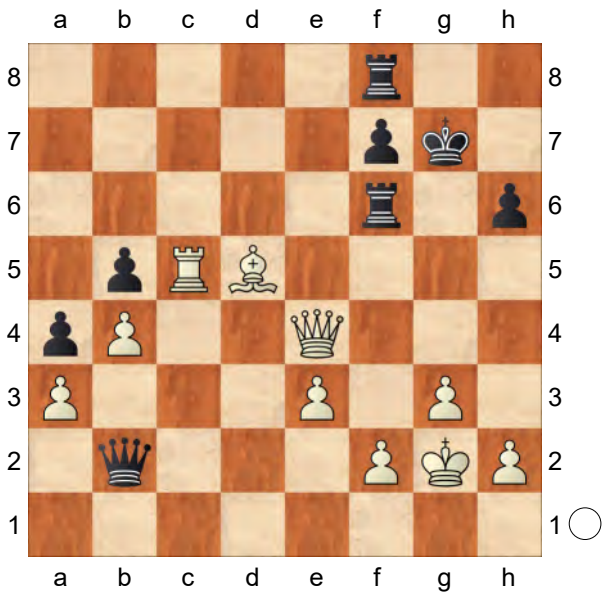


29.Qf5-g4+ 1.01 Qxa3 30.Rxb5 Qa1=]
29...Rg6? 2.92/25 3
[29...Kh8± 30.Bf3 *(30.Kh3?* -3.70/24 30.Bd5-f3 0.05 *Rxf2 31.Qd4+ Qxd4-+)* 30...Rd8! Repels Qg4-d7]
[29...Kh8± 0.95/23 was necessary. 30.Bf3 *(30.Rxb5? Rxf2+ 31.Kg1 Rd2-+)* 30...Rd8]



30.Qe4!+- 28 **Rf6** 2:37

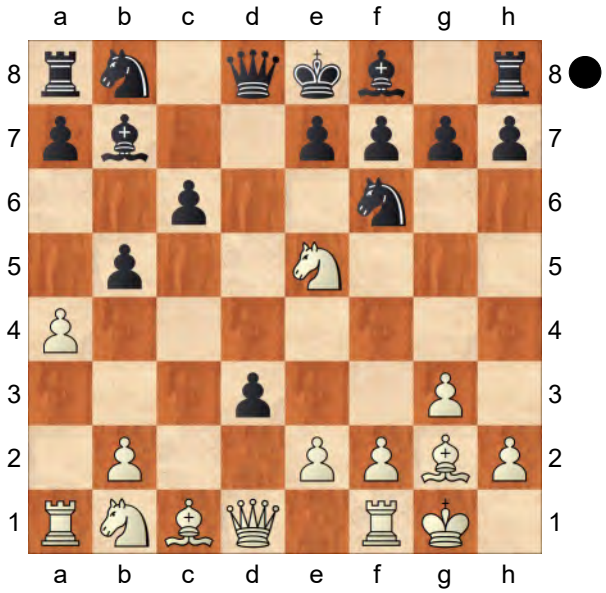
(Diagram)



31.Rc2 3 The board is on fire.
[31.Rxb5? loses. Qxf2+ 32.Kh3 Qf1+ 33.Kh4 Qxb5-+]
31...Qb1 4.70/25 12
[31...Qa1 32.Qd3 Wards off Qa1-d1 Rd8]
[31...Qa1 3.10/25 was worth a try. 32.Qd3 Rd8]
32.Qg4+ 38 **Kh8** 2 **33.Qd4** 30 Active counter play! **33...Qxc2** 5 **34.Qxf6+** 3 Endgame. Endgame KQR-KQB **34...Kg8** 1:15 **35.e4** 12 Strongly threatening Qg6+. Hoping for Qf6-g6+. **35...Qc1** 13 **36.h4** 8 Prevents Qc1-g5. And now e4-e5 would win. **36...Qxa3** 9
[36...h5+- 37.e5 White wants to mate with e5-e6. Qc7 38.Qg6+ Kh8 39.Qh6+ Kg8 40.Qg5+ Kh8]
37.Qg6+ 2 White mates.
[Weaker is 37.Qxh6 Qb2±]
37...Kh8 1 **38.Qxh6+** 1
[Less strong is 38.Bxf7 Rxf7 39.Qxf7 Qxb4±]
38...Kg8 1 **39.Qg6+** 14 Deflection **39...Kh8** 1 **40.Qf6+** 1 **Kg8** 32 **41.h5** 4 Quite a comeback for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) / Black=0.53.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.66
1-0

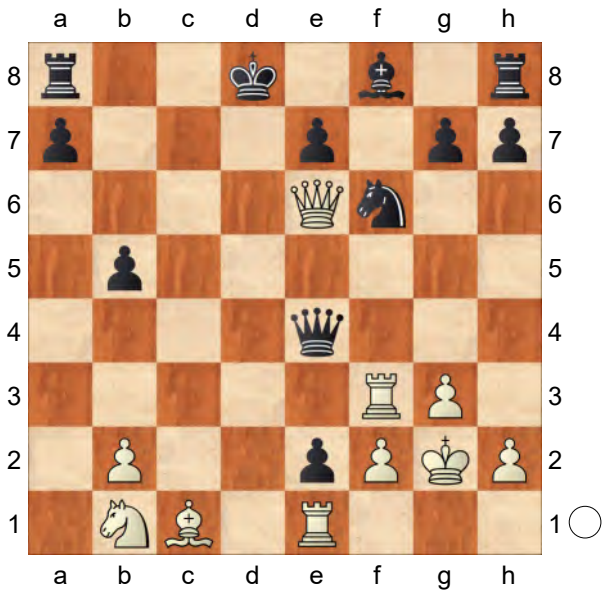
A11
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2731**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (1.3)
[TA]

Rapid 15min+10sec **1.c4** 0 **c6** 0 **2.Nf3** 8 **d5** 2 **3.g3** 1 **dxc4** 20 **4.Bg2** 3 **Nf6** 5 **5.0-0** 7 **b5** 7 **6.a4** 11 A11: English Opening: 1...c6. **6...Bb7!** 37 **7.d3** 14 **cxd3** 2:17 **8.Ne5** 3

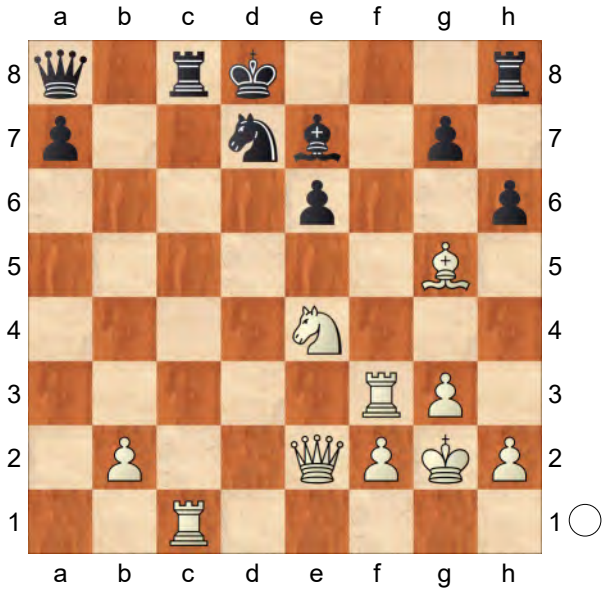


aiming for axb5. The position is equal.
8...Qc8N 39
[8...b4= remains equal.]
[Predecessor: 8...Qc7 9.Bf4 Nh5 10.axb5 Nxf4 11.gxf4 f6 12.bxc6 Nxc6 13.Nxd3 Rd8 14.Nc3 e6 15.Qb3 Be7 16.Rfc1 Qd7 17.Rd1 Qc8 18.Nb5 a6 19.Na7 Qa8 20.Qxb7 1-0 (20) Maghsoodloo,P (2698)-Ghaem Maghami,E (2547) Tornelo INT 2021]

9.axb5± 2:28
[9.exd3?! Nbd7 10.Bf4 b4=]
9...cxb5 3:10 **10.Qb3** 40
[10.Qxd3 Bxg2 11.Kxg2 Qb7+ 12.Qf3 Qxf3+ 13.Nxf3 b4]
10...Bxg2 37 **11.Qxf7+** 7
[11.Kxg2 Qb7+ 12.Kg1 e6 13.Qxd3 Be7∓]
11...Kd8 1 **12.Kxg2** 43 **dxe2** 6 **13.Re1** 3 **Nc6** 1:07 **14.Nf3** 1:06 White has more active pieces. The black rooks are badly placed. **14...Qb7** 1:00
[14...Nb4? 15.Na3 Nc2 16.Nxc2 Qxc2 17.Ra6+- *(17.Qe6 Ke8+-)*]
[14...Qd7± is a better defense.]
15.Ra3 33 **Ne5** 24 **16.Qe6** 2 **Nxf3** 6 **17.Rxf3** 0 **Qe4** 27
[17...Ke8± 18.Nc3 b4]



18.Qa6!+- 55 Black must now prevent Nc3.
[18.Qxe4?! Nxe4 19.Re3 *(19.Rxe2 Nf6±)* 19...Nf6±]
18...Rc8 3:03
[18...Qxb1? 19.Qxb5 e5 20.Rd3+ Qxd3 21.Qxd3+ Ke8 22.Rxe2+-]
19.Qxb5 28 **e6** 1:33
[19...Nd7 was necessary. 20.Rxe2 Qc6 21.Qa5+ Qb6]
20.Bg5 2:31 Really sharp!
[20.Rxe2?! Qc6 21.Qb3 Ke7±]
[20.Nc3?! Qc4±]
20...Be7 17 **21.Nc3** 1:01 Deflection
[21.Qxe2 Qxe2 22.Rxe2 Rc6±]
[21.Rxe2 Qc6 22.Nc3 *(22.Qe5 h6±)* 22...Kd7 23.Qd3+ Ke8+-]
21...Qc6 20 **22.Qxe2** 31 Strongly threatening Nb5.
[Less strong is 22.Bxf6 Bxf6 23.Qxe2 *(23.Rxe2 Bxc3 24.Qxc6 Rxc6=)* 23...Bxc3+-]
22...Nd7 2
[⌓22...Ke8 23.Qxe6 Qxe6 24.Rxe6 Kf7]
23.Ne4 36 White is clearly winning.
23...h6 58 **24.Rc1** 38 **Qa8** 27



25.Rxc8+! 20 **Qxc8** 8 **26.Nd6** 4
Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.55
1-0

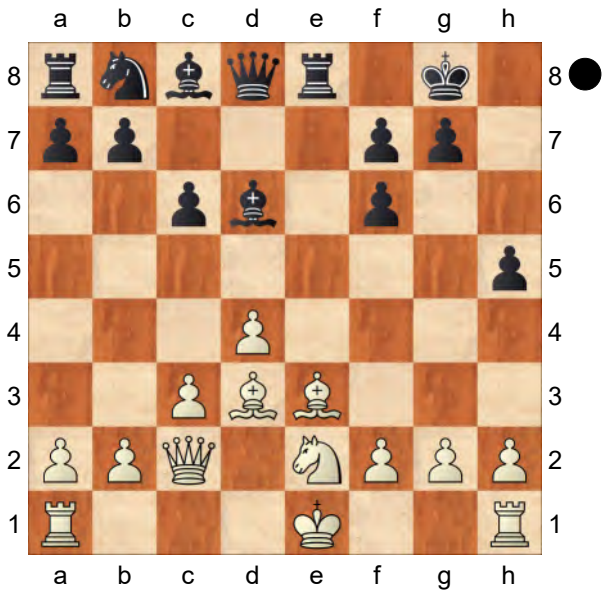
B15

□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2731**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (1.1) 11.11.22
[TA]

Rapid 15min+10sec **1.e4** 0 **c6** 0 **2.d4** 5 **d5** 2 **3.Nc3** 1 **dxe4** 22 **4.Nxe4** 3 **Nf6** 45 **5.Nxf6+** 8 **exf6** 1 **6.c3** 5 A11: English Opening: 1...c6. **6...Bd6** 9 And now ...e4 would win. **7.Bd3** 18 **0-0** 7 **8.Qc2** 2 The position is equal. **8...Re8+** 2 **9.Ne2** 4

[9.Be3 h5 10.Nf3 Nd7 11.0-0 Nf8 12.Rae1 Be6 13.c4
A) 13...Bg4 14.Nh4 *(14.Nd2 h4 15.h3 Bh5)* 14...Bc7;
B) 13...Qc7]

9...h5 22 **10.Be3** 12



Nd7N 32 **11.0-0-0** 47 **b5** 17

[11...Nf8 12.c4 Be6 13.Kb1 Ng6 14.h3 Rc8 *(14...a6)* 15.f4 *(15.Nc3 h4)* 15...f5 *(15...Bd5 16.Bc1 Bxg2 17.Rh2 Bf3 18.Rf1 Bxe2 19.Rxe2 Qd7)* 16.g4 Bxc4 17.Bxc4 Rxe3 18.Qxf5]

12.d5 58

[12.Ng3 Nb6 13.Nxh5 Bg4 14.Ng3 *(14.Nf4 Bxd1 15.Qxd1 Bxf4 16.Bxf4 Qd5)* 14...Nd5 *(14...Bxd1 15.Qxd1)* 15.Rde1 b4 16.c4 b3 17.axb3 Nb4 18.Qb1 Qa5]

12...c5 12 **13.Bxb5** 1:12 **Rb8** 1:33 **14.c4** 38 **a6∓** 2 **15.Ba4** 0 **Re7** 1:35

[15...Rxe3 16.fxe3 Ne5 17.h3 Qa5 *(17...g6 18.b3)* 18.b3]
[15...Re5 16.Nc3 *(16.Ng3 Nb6 17.Bb3 h4)* 16...Nb6 17.Bb3 a5 *(17...Bf5 18.Qe2)*
A) 18.a3 Bf5 19.Qd2 g6 *(19...Nxd5)*;
B) 18.h3 a4 19.Nxa4 Bf5
B1) 20.Qc3 Nxa4 21.Bxa4 Re4 22.Bb3 *(22.Bb5 Rxb5 23.cxb5 Qa8)* 22...Be5 23.Qc2 Rb4 24.Qe2 Qb6 25.Rd3 Rexc4+ 26.Bxc4 Rxc4+ 27.Kd1 Bxd3 28.Qxd3 Qb5;
B2) 20.Rd3 Re4;
C) 18.Qd3 Bf5 19.Qf1 Re8 20.Bc2 Bxc2 21.Kxc2 Be5
C1) 22.Bxc5 Bxc3 23.Bxb6 *(23.bxc3 Na4 24.Ba3 Qd7)* 23...Qxb6 24.bxc3 Qc5;
C2) 22.b3 Bxc3 23.Kxc3 a4 24.Bxc5 *(24.Qd3 Nd7)* 24...axb3 25.axb3 Na4+ 26.bxa4 Qa5+ 27.Kd4 Rbc8]

16.Ng3 1:08

[16.Rhe1 g6 *(16...Nb6 17.Bb3)* 17.Bd2 Nb6 18.Ng3 h4 19.Ne4 Bf5 20.Bb3 Be5 21.Ba5 Kg7]

16...Ne5 1:41

[16...Nb6 17.Bc6 Rxe3 18.fxe3 h4
A) 19.Ne2 Qe7 20.Qd3 Bf5 21.Qxf5 Nxc4 22.Rd3 g6 *(22...Rxb2 23.Qc8+ Kh7 24.Nc3)* 23.Qh3 Rxb2
A1) 24.Qxh4 Ne5 25.Rd2 Rb4 26.e4 Nc4 27.Rd3 g5 28.Qg4 Ne5 29.Qc8+ Kg7 30.Rh3

Nd3+ 31.Kc2 *(31.Rxd3 Qxe4 32.Rb3 Rc4+ 33.Nc3 Bf4+ 34.Kb2 Qxg2+)* 31...Rb2+ 32.Kxd3 c4+ 33.Ke3 Rxe2+ 34.Kxe2 Qxe4+ 35.Kf1 Qb1+ 36.Ke2 Qe4+;

A2) 24.Qc8+ Kg7 25.Nc3 Ne5 26.Kxb2 Nxd3+ 27.Kb3 Qxe3 28.Qxa6 Qd2 29.Rb1 c4+ 30.Qxc4 *(30.Kxc4 Nc5)* 30...Nc5+ 31.Kb4 Ne4+ 32.Kb3;

B) 19.Nf1 Bg4 20.Rd3 Bf5 21.Nd2 Bxd3 22.Qxd3 Nc8]

17.Ne4 2:25

[17.Bd2]

17...Reb7 0 **18.b3** 2 **Rb4** 24 **19.Bd2** 1:09

[19.Nxc5 Qa5]

[19.Nxd6 Qxd6 20.Rhe1 Rxa4 21.bxa4 Rb4 22.Bf4 Nd3+ 23.Rxd3 Qxf4+ 24.Ree3 Bf5 25.g3 Bxd3 26.Qxd3 Qxc4+ 27.Qxc4 Rxc4+]

19...Rxa4 53 **20.bxa4** 16 **Bf5!-+** 1:27 aiming for ...Rxd3! **21.Rde1** 2

[21.f3 Bxe4 22.fxe4 Qb6 23.Qb3 Qc7]

21...h4! 11

[21...Ng4

A) 22.f3 Bxe4 23.fxe4 *(23.Rxe4 Nf2 24.Rhe1 Nxe4 25.Qxe4 Bxh2)* 23...Be5 24.Bc3 Bd4;

B) 22.Rhf1 Be5 23.h3 Rb2 24.Qd3 Nh2]

22.h3 2:41

[22.Re3 Ng4 *(22...Bh7 23.f4 Ng4 24.Rf3; 22...Ng6 23.Rf3)* 23.Rf3 Bg6 24.h3 Be5 25.hxg4 Rb2 26.Qd3 Rxa2 27.Kd1 Ra1+ 28.Bc1 Qa5 29.Qc2]

22...Ng6 0 **23.Re3** 1 **Nf4** 2:26 **24.g4=** 0

[24.f3 Nxg2 25.Rb3]

24...Bg6 1

[24...hxg3 25.fxg3 Nh5 26.Rg1 Bg6 27.g4 *(27.Bc3 Qd7)* 27...Nf4 28.Rf1 Be5 29.Bc3 Bd4 30.Rg3 Nxd5 31.cxd5 Qxd5 32.Re1 *(32.Rf5 Bxf5 33.gxf5 Qxf5 34.Qg2 Bxc3 35.Nxc3 Qf4+)* 32...Kh8 33.Re2 *(33.g5 f5)* 33...Re8 34.Bxd4 cxd4 35.Nc3 Rxe2 36.Qxe2 Qc5]

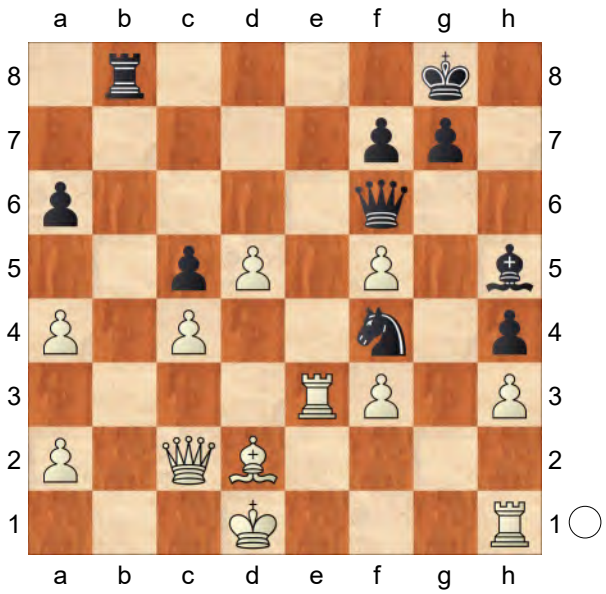
25.Kd1! 47 **f5** 1:06

[25...Be5 26.Rb3]

[25...Qd7 26.f3 *(26.Rb3 Rxb3 27.axb3 Nxh3; 26.Bc3 Ng2 27.Re2 Nf4)* 26...f5 27.Nxd6 fxg4 28.Ne4 gxf3 29.Bc3 f2 30.Kc1 Ng2 31.Qxf2 Nxe3 32.Qxe3 Qxa4 33.Qe2 Qa3+ 34.Bb2 Qxa2]

26.Nxd6 0 **Qxd6** 33 **27.gxf5** 1:05 **Bh5+** 12 **28.f3** 1:15 Qd3 is the strong threat.

28...Qf6 1:14



29.Bc3 1 **Qg5?** 3

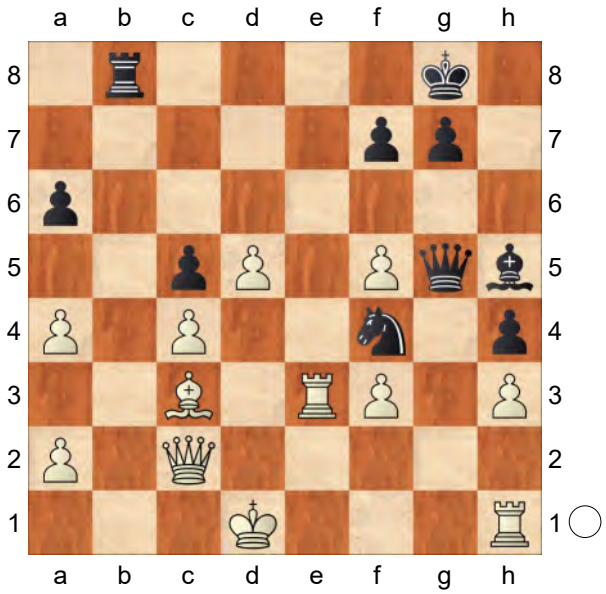
(Diagram)

30.Qe4!+- 28

[30.Rhe1]

30...Qg2 2:37

[30...f6 31.Bd2 Qg2∓ Predecessor: 32.Rhe1 Rb2 33.Bc3 Nxh3 34.Kc1



Nf2 35.Qe6+]
[30...Kh7 31.Bd2 *(31.d6 f6)* 31...Qg2 32.Rhe1 *(32.Qxf4 Qxh1+ 33.Re1 Rb1+ 34.Ke2 Qg2+ 35.Kd3 Rxe1 36.Bxe1 f6)* 32...Rb2 33.Bc3 0-1 (47) Mamedyarov,S (2782)-Aronian,L (2782) chess24.com INT 2021 Nxh3 34.Kc1 Nf2 35.R3e2 *(35.Qxh4 Nd3+ 36.Rxd3 Qc2#; 35.R1e2 Rxe2 36.Rxe2 Qf1+ 37.Re1 Nd3+)* 35...Rxe2 36.Qxe2 Bxf3]

31.Rhe1 3 The board is on fire.

31...Qxa2 12
[31...f6!? 32.d6 Qxa2 33.d7]

32.Qc2 38 **Qxc4** 2 **33.Re8+** 30 Active counter play! **33...Kh7** 5 **34.Rxb8** 3 Endgame KQR-KQB **34...Qxd5+** 1:15 **35.Qd2** 12 Strongly threatening Qg6+. **35...Bxf3+** 13 **36.Kc1** 8 **Qxf5** 9 **37.Re3** 2 White mates. **37...Ne2+** 1 **38.Kb2** 1 **Nxc3** 1 **39.Qxc3** 14 **Qf4** 1 **40.Qd3+** 1 **f5** 32 **41.Rf8** 4 Quite a comeback for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) / Black=0.53

41...Qb4++- 42.Kc1 Be4 43.Qb3 Qd4 44.Qc3 Qd6 45.Rf7 Qg6 46.Rd7 Qg1+ 47.Kb2 c4± 48.Rxe4 fxe4 49.Rd4 Qf2+ 50.Qd2 c3+-+ Much weaker is **51.Kxc3 Qg3+ 52.Kb2 Qxh3= 53.Rxe4!? Qg3 54.Qd4 Qg2+ 55.Kc3 Qf3+ 56.Kb4 Qf8+ 57.Ka5-+ Qf5+ 58.Kxa6! g5 59.a5 h3 60.Re7+-+ Kg6∓ 61.Qg7+ Kh5 62.Qh7+∓ Kg4 63.Re4+**

1-0

D20

□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2731**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**

Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (1.3)
[TA]

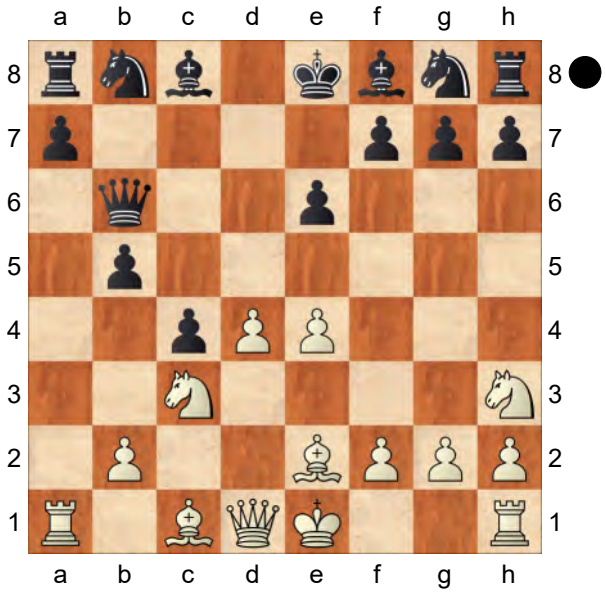
Rapid 15min+10sec **1.d4** 0 **d5** 0 **2.c4** 8 **dxc4** 2 **3.e4** 1 **b5** 20 **4.a4** 3 **c6** 5 **5.axb5** 7
[5.Nc3 b4 6.Na2 *(6.Nb1 Ba6 7.Qc2 Qxd4 8.Nf3 Qb6 9.Be3 Qc7 10.Nbd2 e6 11.Bxc4 Bxc4 12.Nxc4 Nf6)* 6...Nf6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Bxc4 e6 9.Nf3 a5 10.Bg5 Be7 *(10...Qb6 11.Nc1 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Qxa6 13.Nb3 Nd7 14.Qe2 Qxe2+ 15.Kxe2 c5 16.Rhc1 cxd4 17.Nbxd4 Bc5)* 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.Nc1 Nd7 13.Nb3 0-0 14.0-0 Bb7 15.Bxd5 cxd5 16.Re1 Rfc8]

5...cxb5 7 **6.Nc3** 11 A11: English Opening: 1...c6. **6...Qb6!** 37
[6...a6]

7.Be2 14
[7.Nd5 Qb7 8.Bf4 e5 9.Bxe5 Nd7 10.Bf4 *(10.Nc7+ Kd8 11.Nd5 Ngf6 12.Bc7+ Ke8 13.Ba5 Nxd5 14.exd5 Bd6)* 10...Ngf6 11.Nc7+ Kd8 12.Nxa8 Qxe4+ 13.Ne2 Qxa8 14.Nc3 Bb4 15.f3 a5 16.Be2 Qc6 17.0-0 Re8]
[7.b3 e6 8.bxc4 Bb4 9.Bd2 bxc4 10.Bxc4 Ne7 11.Nge2 0-0 12.0-0

a5 13.Na4 Qc6 14.d5 exd5 15.exd5 Qxc4 16.Nb6 Qa6 17.Bxb4 Qxb6 18.Bxe7 Re8 19.Ba3 Nd7]

7...e6 2:17 **8.Nh3** 3



aiming for axb5. The position is equal.

8...Bb7N 39

[8...Bb4 9.0-0 a5 *(9...Ne7 10.Be3 0-0 11.Bf3 Bb7)* 10.Be3 Ne7 11.d5 *(11.Na2 Na6)* 11...Qa6]

9.0-0± 2:28 **Nf6** 3:10 **10.e5** 40

[10.Be3 a5 *(10...a6 11.Bf3 Bb4 12.e5 Nd5 13.Nxd5 exd5 14.Nf4 Qd8 15.Bd2)* 11.d5 *(11.Bf3 Na6 12.e5 Nd5 13.Bxd5 Bxd5 14.Nxd5 exd5 15.f4 f5 16.exf6 0-0-0)* 11...Bc5 12.dxe6 fxe6 13.Bxc5 Qxc5 14.e5 Qxe5 15.Re1 Qc5 16.Bf3 *(16.Nf4 Ra6 17.Rxa5 Rxa5 18.Nxe6 Qb6 19.Bh5+ g6 20.Bf3)* 16...Bxf3 17.Rxe6+ Kf7 18.Qxf3 Kxe6 19.Qxa8]

10...Nd5 37 **11.Nxd5** 7

[11.Bf3 Nxc3 12.bxc3 Nc6]

11...Bxd5 1 **12.Nf4** 43 **Nc6** 6 **13.Be3** 3

[13.Bf3 1-0 (20) Maghsoodloo,P (2698)-Ghaem Maghami,E (2547) Tornelo INT 2021 Bxf3 *(13...Nb4 14.Bxd5 Nxd5 15.Nxd5 exd5 16.f4 a5 17.f5)* 14.Qxf3 Be7]

13...Rd8 1:07

[13...Bb4 14.Nxd5 *(14.b3 0-0 15.bxc4 bxc4)* 14...exd5 15.f4 a5 16.Bf2 0-0 17.f5 f6]

14.b3 1:06 White has more active pieces. The black rooks are badly placed.

14...Bb4 1:00 **15.bxc4** 33 **bxc4** 24

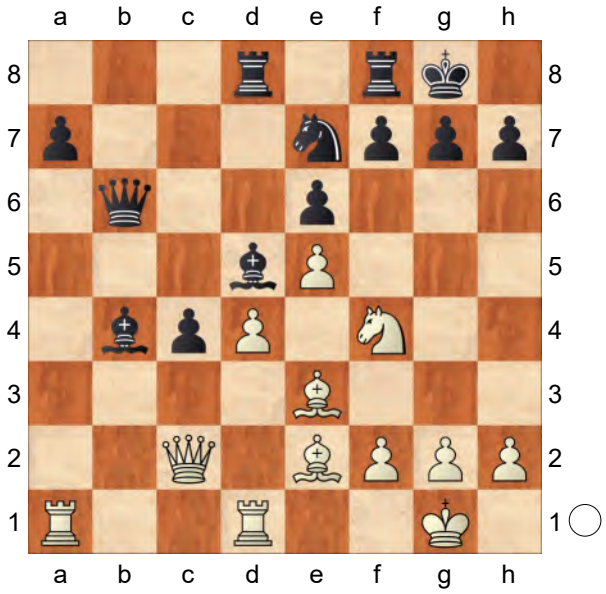
16.Qc2 2

[Predecessor: 16.Nh5 Kf8 *(16...0-0 17.Bxc4 Bxc4 18.Qg4 g6 19.Nf6+ Kg7 20.Qg5)*]

16...0-0 6 **17.Rfd1** 0

[17.Bxc4 Nxd4 18.Bxd4 Qxd4 19.Nxd5 exd5?! 20.Bd3 a5 21.Bxh7+= Kh8= remains equal.]

17...Ne7 27

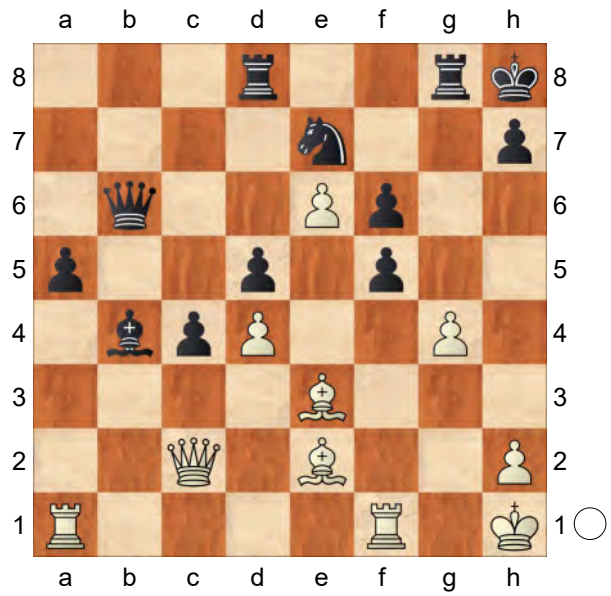


18.Nxd5!+- 55 Black must now prevent Nc3. **18...exd5** 3:03 **19.f4** 28 **a5** 1:33 **20.f5** 2:31 Really sharp! **20...f6** 17 **21.e6** 1:01 Deflection **21...g6** 20

[21...Qc7∓ 22.g4 Bd6 23.h4]

22.g4 31 Strongly threatening Nb5. **22...Kh8** 2 **23.Kh1** 36 White is clearly winning. **23...Rg8** 58 **24.Rf1** 38 **gxf5** 27

(Diagram)



25.gxf5! 20 **Bd6** 8 **26.Rab1** 4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.55 **26...Qc7 27.Bh5**
[27.Bd1]
27...Rb8 28.Qf2 c3 Less strong is **29.Bh6 Rxb1 30.Rxb1 Qc4+- 31.Be2 Qa2**
[31...c2 32.Rc1± Qb4 *(32...Qb3 33.Qh4)* 33.Bd3± *(33.Qh4 Be5)* 33...a4± 34.Bxc2 *(34.Rxc2+- Qb1+ 35.Bc1+- Qb3±* is a better defense.*)* 34...Qc3 35.Be3? *(35.Bxa4 Qh3 36.Bd2)* 35...a3]
32.Rc1 Nc6= 33.Rg1 Ne7 34.Rc1 Rg4± 35.Be3
[35.Rf1 Re4+- *(35...Rg8?! 36.Qh4)* 36.Qg2 Ng6± 37.fxg6?! Rxe2 *(37...Qxe2 38.g7+ Kg8? 39.Rxf6 Qd1+ 40.Qg1 Re1 41.Rf8+ Bxf8 42.gxf8Q#+-)* 38.e7 Bxe7± 39.g7+?! Kg8± 40.Qg3 was necessary. Qb2 41.Qc7]
35...Rg7 36.Bh6 Rg4
1-0

A50

□ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2681**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
Tata Steel-A 85th (8) 22.01.2023
[Van Foreest,Jorden]

1.Nf3 The day before both Arjun and myself had lost our games. Naturally we were both coming in this game looking for a fight.Am Tag zuvor hatten sowohl Arjun als auch ich unsere Partien verloren. Natürlich waren wir beide in dieser Partie auf einen Kampf aus. **1...Nf6 2.g3 b6** I had not expected the King's Indian from Arjun, but at the same time I wasn't really sure what to expect. Ich hatte nicht mit Königsindisch von Arjun gerechnet, aber gleichzeitig war ich mir auch nicht sicher, was ich erwarten sollte. **3.Bg2 Bb7 4.0-0 g6 5.c4 Bg7 6.d4 0-0 7.d5**
[7.Nc3 is entirely unplayable. ist völlig unspielbar. Ne4]
[7.Re1 e6 White has three pawns for the rook, but more importantly is the fact that the Black king is under a irresistable attack.Weiß hat drei Bauern für den Turm, aber noch wichtiger ist die Tatsache, dass der schwarze König einem unwiderstehlichen Angriff ausgesetzt ist. 8.Bf4 d6 9.Qc2 *(9.Nc3 Ne4!* I am not sure I would have made this move, as I was mostly looking at Na4. Interestingly, White doesn't quite hurry to gain the b6-pawn as it will fall sooner or later.Ich bin mir nicht sicher, ob ich diesen Zug gemacht hätte, da ich hauptsächlich Sa4 im Auge hatte. Interessanterweise hat es Weiß nicht sehr eilig, den b6-Bauern zu gewinnen, da er früher oder später fallen wird. *; 9.Nbd2)* 9...c5]

7...Na6 Strangely enough, almost all moves here but ...Nc6 are popular nowadays. Who would've guessed that just twenty years ago? My best guess is that modern engines have something to do with this change of trend. The text is a semi-waiting move that also discourages 8.Be3, since that is now well met by 8. ..Ng4.Seltsamerweise sind heutzutage fast alle Züge außer ...Sc6 beliebt. Wer hätte das noch vor zwanzig Jahren vermutet? Meine beste Vermutung ist, dass moderne Engines etwas mit dieser Trendwende zu tun haben. Der Text ist ein halb-abwartender Zug, der auch von 8.Le3 abschreckt, da dies nun gut durch 8. ...Sg4 beantwortet wird.

[7...b5 As it turns out, the connected passers on the queenside provide ample compensation, so that White can still keep playing on in this position. Amazing stuff!Wie sich herausstellt, bieten die verbundenen Freibauern am Damenflügel reichlich Kompensation, so dass Weiß in dieser Stellung immer noch weiterspielen kann. Erstaunliches Zeug! 8.Qb3 Qc8 9.Qxb5 c6 I saw this, thinking a draw would be forced. Ich habe das gesehen und dachte, dass ein Unentschieden erzwungen wäre.]

8.Nc3 Replying to a semi-waiting move, with a semi-waiting move. I vaguely recalled that this could be played, without being into the details. The rook generally stands slightly more useful on b1 as there will no longer be any tricks on the long diagonal , and it supports the b2-b4 push in several lines. Antwortet auf einen halb abwartenden Zug mit einem halb abwartenden Zug. Ich habe mich vage daran erinnert, dass dies gespielt werden kann, ohne mich mit den Details zu befassen. Der Turm steht im Allgemeinen etwas nützlicher auf b1, da es keine Tricks mehr auf der langen Diagonale gibt, und er unterstützt den Vorstoß b2-b4 in mehreren Varianten. **8...Nc5** An interesting choice as play will now resemble the 7...exd4 line, but the inclusion of the moves 7...h6 8.Rb1 changes the situation slightly. Eine interessante Wahl, da das Spiel nun der Variante 7...exd4 ähneln wird, aber die Einbeziehung der Züge 7...h6 8. Tb1 ändert die Situation leicht. **9.Nd4 e5 10.Nc2**

[10.Nb3!? A crazy suggestion by the engine, claiming that White can simply play on without the queen. Needless to say I did not see this one! Ein verrückter Vorschlag der Engine, die behauptet, dass Weiß einfach ohne die Dame weiterspielen kann. Unnötig zu sagen, dass ich dies nicht gesehen habe! d6 11.Nxc5 dxc5]

10...a5 11.b3 By logical deduction I realized that this should be the right move. In the usual 7...exd4 line, Kh1 would is the main-line, but here the ...h6 move proves extremely useful as White desires to develop the bishop to g5 in those lines. Also 11.Nc2 d5! 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.exd5 Bf5! did not feel right as suddenly my rook on b1 is rather awkwardly placed. That more or less left the text as only viable option. Durch logische Schlussfolgerung wurde mir klar, dass dies der richtige Zug sein sollte. In der üblichen 7...exd4-Linie wäre Kh1 die Hauptvariante, aber hier erweist sich der Zug ...h6 als äußerst

nützlich, da Weiß in diesen Linien den Läufer nach g5 entwickeln möchte. Auch 11.Sc2 d5! 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.exd5 Lf5! fühlte sich nicht richtig an, da mein Turm auf b1 plötzlich ziemlich ungünstig steht. Damit blieb mehr oder weniger der Text als einzige brauchbare Option übrig. **11...d6** The typical reply to the Bf4 sortie.Die typische Antwort auf den Lf4-Ausfall. **12.e4 Bc8** This is the point of Black's last move. The pawn will advance to f4, and Black will get a good grip over the dark squares, especially the e5-square.Dies ist der Sinn des letzten Zuges von Schwarz. Der Bauer wird nach f4 vorrücken, und Schwarz wird die dunklen Felder, insbesondere das Feld e5, gut in den Griff bekommen. **13.Na3 Ne8 14.Nab5 Bd7** A dangerous looking move, threatening ...Bh3 stuff.Ein gefährlich aussehender Zug, der mit ...Lh3-Geschichten droht. **15.Rb1** Adequately dealing with any threats on the kingside for the moment. In case of ...Bh3 there is always Bf1 as a convenient reply.Damit sind alle Drohungen am Königsflügel im Moment ausreichend abgewehrt. Im Falle von ...Lh3 gibt es immer Lf1 als bequeme Antwort. **15...f5 16.f3** It's time to start some play of my own. Ideally I would like to play either b5 or c5 at a certain moment, softening up Black's structure and creating inroads for my pieces into the enemy position.Es ist an der Zeit, mein eigenes Spiel zu beginnen. Idealerweise möchte ich zu einem bestimmten Zeitpunkt entweder b5 oder c5 spielen, um die schwarze Struktur aufzuweichen und meinen Figuren Einlass in die gegnerische Stellung zu verschaffen. **16...f4** Arjun spent a lot of time on this move, deciding whether to put the bishop or knight on e5. Unfortunately, only one piece can acces this pretty square at a time. I believe that his choice is best, as the c8-bishop is playing now, and the c4-pawn is under constant attack. Optically, Black's position may look beautiful, but actually it is not so easy to organize an attack here, and the backward d6-pawn will always need to be protected. Arjun verbrachte viel Zeit mit diesem Zug, um zu entscheiden, ob er den Läufer oder den Springer auf e5 stellen sollte. Leider kann immer nur eine Figur dieses schöne Feld betreten. Ich glaube, dass seine Wahl die beste ist, da der Läufer auf c8 jetzt mitspielt und der c4-Bauer ständig angegriffen wird. Optisch mag Schwarz' Stellung schön aussehen, aber tatsächlich ist es nicht so einfach, hier einen Angriff zu organisieren, und der rückständige d6-Bauer wird immer geschützt werden müssen. **17.a3** There were ideas of ...Bh3 followed by ...c5, so it was necessary to remove the king from the g-file.Es gab Ideen von ...Lh3 gefolgt von ...c5, also war es notwendig, den König von der g-Linie zu entfernen. **17...g5** Realising there will be no direct attack, my opponent wisely brings the queen back, aiming for the f7-square from where it will exert pressure on the c4-pawn. At the same time the way is now opened for the g-pawn to storm down the board at some point. In der Erkenntnis, dass es keinen direkten Angriff geben wird, zieht mein Gegner die Dame klugerweise zurück und zielt auf das Feld f7, von wo aus sie Druck auf den c4-Bauern ausüben wird. Gleichzeitig ist nun der Weg frei für den g-Bauern, der irgendwann das Brett hinaufstürmen kann.

[17...a4 As it turns out White can not quite keep both pawns here. Wie sich herausstellt, kann Weiß hier nicht ganz beide Bauern halten. 18.Nxa4 *(18.b4* This is what worried me, suddenly it's not that easy to keep hanging on to the rook for White. Das hat mich beunruhigt, denn plötzlich ist es nicht mehr so einfach, den Turm für Weiß festzuhalten. *Nb3)* 18...Nxa4 19.bxa4 Bh6 20.g4 Even in this endgame White can still keep playing for a win, since the a7-pawn remains extremely strong being backed up by the g1-bishop. Selbst in diesem Endspiel kann Weiß immer noch auf Gewinn spielen, da der a7-Bauer mit dem g1-Läufer im Rücken extrem stark bleibt. Bg5 At first this seems to run into the simple reply 41.Qe4, but things continue from there.Zunächst scheint dies in die einfache Antwort 41. De4+zu laufen, aber von da an geht es weiter. 21.Kf2 Bh4+ 22.Ke2]

[17...h5 I saw this, thinking a draw would be forced.Ich habe das gesehen und dachte, dass ein Unentschieden erzwungen wäre.]

18.b4 A prophylactical move, both defending the somewhat loose c3-knight and indirectly the c4-pawn. Ein prophylaktischer Zug, der sowohl den etwas lockeren c3-Springer als auch indirekt den c4-Bauern verteidigt. **18...Nb7 19.g4 h5?** I was surprised by this move, as it felt that Black shouldn't be making any pawn-pushes on the queenside, but I did not see any direct refutation of the move.Ich war von diesem Zug überrascht, da ich das Gefühl hatte, dass Schwarz keine Bauernvorstöße am Damenflügel machen sollte, aber ich habe keine direkte Widerlegung dieses Zuges gesehen. **20.h3?** Missing a golden opportunity.Verpasst eine goldene Chance. **20...Rf7 21.Kf2 Bf8 22.Rg1** I wasn't sure whether pushing the pawn all the way to a6 would be the correct approach, but after seeing all those AlphaZero choice my brain has a natural inclination to do so. In fact, it's this pawn that will prove to be decisive much later on in the game.Ich war mir nicht sicher, ob es der richtige Ansatz wäre, den Bauern ganz nach a6 zu schieben, aber nachdem ich all diese AlphaZero-Züge gesehen habe, hat mein Gehirn eine natürliche Neigung, das zu tun. Tatsächlich ist es dieser Bauer, der sich viel später in der Partie als entscheidend erweisen wird. **22...Rh7** Somewhere around here I got stuck looking for a plan. Simply not being able to find a way to improve my pieces. At the same time, I saw many small ways of improving the position for my opponent. For example bringing the poor h5-knight back into the game via g7 to e6, or playing the light-squared bishop around to f7, adding more pressure to the c4-pawn. As a result I kind of started to move around aimlessly, while my opponent calmly improved their position. Irgendwo hier bin ich auf der Suche nach einem Plan stecken geblieben. Ich war einfach nicht in der Lage, einen Weg zu finden, meine Figuren zu verbessern. Gleichzeitig sah ich viele kleine Möglichkeiten, die Stellung für meinen Gegner zu verbessern. Zum Beispiel, den armen h5-Springer über g7 nach e6 zurück ins Spiel zu bringen, oder den weißfeldrigen Läufer nach f7 zu spielen, um den c4-Bauern mehr unter Druck zu

setzen. Infolgedessen begann ich, irgendwie ziellos zu ziehen, während mein Gegner in aller Ruhe seine Stellung verbesserte. **23.Bf1** Immediately after making this move, I had a moment of shock - did I really just blunder the simply ...Nxf3 tactic. Unmittelbar nachdem ich diesen Zug gemacht hatte, hatte ich einen Schockmoment - hatte ich wirklich gerade die einfache ...Sxf3-Taktik übersehen? **23...Nf6** As I was desperately trying to calculate the 23... Nxf3 complications, Arjun fortunately quickly replied before I was able to figure everything out.Als ich verzweifelt versuchte, die Komplikationen von 23... Sxf3 zu berechnen, antwortete Arjun glücklicherweise schnell, bevor ich alles herausfinden konnte. **24.Ke1 Qc8 25.Rb2** I decided I did not want to allow ...Nxf3 for a second time.Ich beschloss, dass ich nicht ein zweites Mal ...Sxf3 zulassen wollte. **25...Nd8 26.Qd3** As I already mentioned, I had no actual plan here and was just moving around without any particular aim. Wie ich bereits erwähnte, hatte ich hier keinen wirklichen Plan und zog einfach ohne ein bestimmtes Ziel. **26...Nf7**

[26...axb4 27.axb4 hxg4 The rook occupying the back-rank worried me a bit, but really it shouldn't have as any normal move simply brings it home for White. Der Turm, der die Grundreihe besetzt, hat mich etwas beunruhigt, aber eigentlich hätte das nicht sein müssen, da jeder normale Zug einfach die Sache für Weiß klar macht. 28.hxg4 c6 29.dxc6 Nxc6 30.Nxd6! During the game I hardly considered this one, but it really is the only way to continue the game.Während der Partie habe ich das kaum in Betracht gezogen, aber es ist wirklich die einzige Möglichkeit, das Spiel fortzusetzen. Nxb4 31.Rxb4 Qc5] **27.Kd1 Be7 28.Kc2 axb4 29.axb4?** A terrible mistake.Ein schrecklicher Fehler. **29...hxg4** This time Arjun lets me off the hook. We were both under the impression that the f4-pawn must be defended. Diesmal lässt Arjun mich vom Haken. Wir waren beide der Meinung, dass der f4-Bauer verteidigt werden muss. **30.hxg4 Ra1** A very clever plan by my opponent, as ...Bf7 is up next, and suddenly the c4-pawn will feel very loose. At this moment I started to feel the pressure as I did not find a convenient way of protecting the feeble pawn. Ein sehr kluger Plan meines Gegners, denn als nächstes steht ...Lf7 an, und plötzlich wird der c4-Bauer sehr locker. In diesem Moment begann ich den Druck zu spüren, da ich keinen geeigneten Weg gefunden hatte, den schwachen Bauern zu schützen. **31.Rb1 Rh2+ 32.Rg2!** No longer being able to protect the c4-pawn I understood that the time for action had come. The fact that Black's queen is somewhat out of the game on g8 is a key factor. Da ich den c4-Bauern nicht mehr schützen konnte, war mir klar, dass die Zeit zum Handeln gekommen war. Die Tatsache, dass Schwarz' Dame auf g8 etwas aus dem Spiel ist, ist ein Schlüsselfaktor. **32...Rxg2+ 33.Bxg2!** Jumping in!Springt rein! **33...Rxb1** Understandably Arjun was not very interested in capturing on c6, allowing my pieces to spring to life but after the text the position also explodes. Verständlicherweise war Arjun nicht sehr daran interessiert, auf c6 zu

schlagen, wodurch meine Figuren zum Leben erwachten, aber nach dem Text explodiert die Stellung auch. **34.Kxb1!** Of course, this had to be played! Actually, during the game I felt Black should be better after this, but at the same time I felt I had no choice. As it turns out, not only do the engines approve of this, they also believe White is slightly better if anything.Natürlich musste das gespielt werden! Eigentlich hatte ich während der Partie das Gefühl, dass Schwarz danach besser stehen sollte, aber gleichzeitig hatte ich das Gefühl, dass ich keine Wahl hatte. Es stellte sich heraus, dass die Engines dies nicht nur gutheißen, sondern auch glauben, dass wenn überhaupt Weiß leicht besser steht. **34...Nxg4 35.fxg4 Bxg4** Both captures on c4 were possible, with the consequences being nearly impossible to evaluate to the human eye. Beide Schlagzüge auf c4 waren möglich, wobei die Folgen für das menschliche Auge kaum abzuschätzen waren. **36.Bf3 Bh3 37.Bh5 g4** Arjun rightly decides its high time to bring the knight back, but this does allow a cute tactic. Arjun beschließt zu Recht, dass es höchste Zeit ist, den Springer zurückzubringen, aber das erlaubt eine nette Taktik. **38.Ne2 Bf1 39.Qd1!** Although this does not win a pawn technically, the g6-pawn was certainly a vital pawn for Black, serving as important protection for the king. Obwohl damit technisch gesehen kein Bauer gewonnen wird, war der g6-Bauer sicherlich ein wichtiger Bauer für Schwarz und diente als wichtiger Schutz für den König. **39...Bg2 40.Bg6** Having made move 40, I got off the board feeling quite satsified how things had gone. Although Black is up a piece, the a6+b5 pawn-pair seemed extremely menacing and I felt my position would be easier to play. While taking a look at the other remaining games I suddenly started to think about 40...Nd3 in my own game. Would this really be possible? If so, it might immediately force a draw.Nachdem ich den 40. Zug gemacht hatte, verließ ich das Brett mit dem Gefühl, dass die Dinge ziemlich zufriedenstellend gelaufen waren. Obwohl Schwarz eine Figur mehr hat, wirkte das Bauernpaar a6+b5 extrem bedrohlich und ich hatte das Gefühl, dass meine Stellung leichter zu spielen sein würde. Während ich mir die anderen verbleibenden Partien anschaute, dachte ich plötzlich über 40...Sd3 in meiner eigenen Partie nach. Wäre das wirklich möglich? Wenn ja, könnte es sofort ein Remis erzwingen. **40...Ng5** Upon returning to the board and not seeing the knight on d3 I felt quite relieved .Als ich zum Brett zurückkehrte und den Springer auf d3 nicht mehr sah, war ich sehr erleichtert. **41.Nbc3**

[41.Nxf4 exf4 42.Bb2 The most logical move, but I did not want to exchange the a7-pawn for just a knight. Der logischste Zug, aber ich wollte den a7-Bauern nicht gegen bloß einen Springer tauschen.]

41...Bf3 There is no time to keep the c5-pawn protected. It is much more important to bring the queen back into play. Es ist keine Zeit mehr, den c5-Bauern zu schützen. Es ist viel wichtiger, die Dame wieder ins Spiel zu bringen. **42.Qf1 Kg7?** A devisive mistake. It was necesary to exchange the active d6-rook. Ein verhängnisvoller Fehler. Es

war notwendig, den aktiven d6-Turm zu tauschen. **43.Bf5** Tucking the bishop away very safely on g1. Not only does it support the advance of both the passed pawns, it also safeguards against any eventual back-rank issues.Der Läufer wird sehr sicher auf g1 versteckt. Das unterstützt nicht nur den Vormarsch der beiden Freibauern, sondern schützt auch vor eventuellen Problemen mit der hinteren Reihe. **43...Qh8 44.Nxf4** I wasn't entirely sure about pushing my pawns to dark squares, but then I thought the closer to promotion, the better! Ich war mir nicht ganz sicher, ob ich meine Bauern auf dunkle Felder schieben sollte, aber dann dachte ich, je näher an der Umwandlung, desto besser! **44...exf4 45.Bxf4 Bf6 46.Qc1!** A nice move, using the fact that 46... Nxd6 runs into 47.Nf6+ Kh8 48. Qh7# Ein schöner Zug, der die Tatsache nutzt, dass 46...Sxd6 in 47.Sf6+ Kh8 48.Dh7# läuft. **46...Nf7** At this point I spent quite some time as there are many winning options and I wasn't sure which one would be easiest.An diesem Punkt verbrachte ich einige Zeit, da es viele Gewinnmöglichkeiten gibt und ich mir nicht sicher war, welche am einfachsten sein würde. **47.Nb5** Not the most accurate, but it does the job as well. Es ist nicht das genaueste, aber es erfüllt seine Aufgabe auch. **47...Qa8 48.e5**

[48.Qa3]

48...dxe5 A last trick by Arjun. Ein letzter Trick von Arjun. **49.Bd2 Nd6 50.Bh6+ Kf7 51.Nxd6+!** Adequately dealing with all the counterplay. Meanwhile the a7-pawn is about to touch down. Angemessener Umgang mit dem ganzen Gegenspiel. In der Zwischenzeit ist der a7-Bauer im Begriff zu landen. **51...cxd6 52.Bg5** A slightly surprising capture, but actually Black has no checks and the White queen infiltrates now as well.Ein etwas überraschender Schlagzug, aber tatsächlich hat Schwarz kein Schach und die weiße Dame dringt nun auch ein. **52...Qh8 53.Be3 e4 54.Bxb6** Due to the multitude of threats, Arjun resigned. A big win for me, since I was on a winless -3 before this game, and this enabled me to have a strong second half of the tournament. Aufgrund der Vielzahl von Drohungen gab Arjun auf. Ein großer Sieg für mich, da ich vor dieser Partie mit -3 sieglos war, und dies ermöglichte mir eine starke zweite Hälfte des Turniers. **54...Qh2?** would be a terrible mistake, as Black is able to get to the White king at long last.wäre ein schrecklicher Fehler, da Schwarz endlich zum weißen König vordringen kann. **55.Bg1 Qe2 56.b5!** Providing enough counterplay just in time! In fact White should watch out not to lose here.Gerade noch rechtzeitig für genügend Gegenspiel gesorgt! In der Tat sollte Weiß aufpassen, hier nicht zu verlieren. **56...Qd3+** The only way to keep the game in balance, but clearly this scenario should be avoided.Das ist die einzige Möglichkeit, das Spiel im Gleichgewicht zu halten, aber dieses Szenario sollte eindeutig vermieden werden.

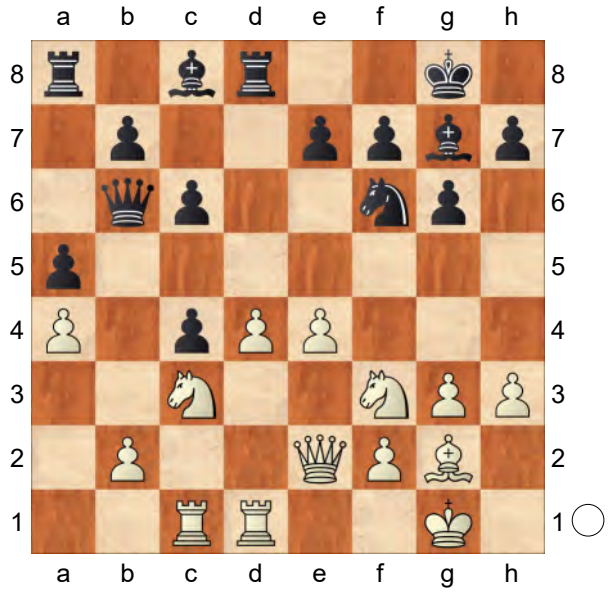
[56...Qd3+? 57.Qc2 *(57.Ka2! Bd1)* 57...Qa3]

1-0

D78

□ **Le,Quang Liem** **2728**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (6.3) 11.11.22
[TA]

Rapid 15min+10sec **1.c4** 0 **c6** 0 **2.Nf3** 3 **d5** 2 **3.g3** 0 **g6** 3 **4.Bg2** 4 **Bg7** 3 **5.d4** 4 **Nf6** 5 **6.0-0** 1 **0-0** 2 **7.a4** 10 7.Nc3 is a critical line.7.Sc3 ist die kritische Fortsetzung. **7...a5** 5 **8.Nc3** 30 **dxc4** 13 **9.e4** 1 Against Nd5. D78: Fianchetto Grünfeld: 6 0-0 c6. **9...Na6** 43 **10.Qe2** 6 **Nb4** 48 **11.Rd1** 33 Black is slightly better. **11...Nd3** 1:01 **12.h3!** 17 Inhibits Ng4. **12...Qb6** 51 **13.Rb1!** 24 **Nxc1** 20 **14.Rbxc1** 0 **Rd8↑** 12



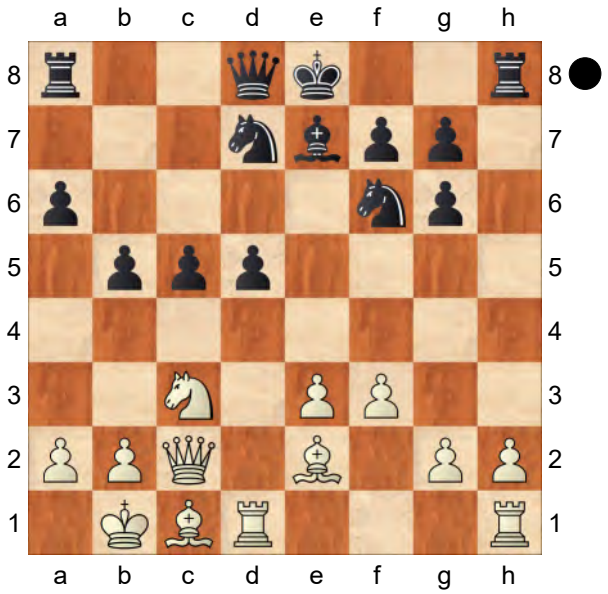
Black has good play. **15.d5N** 3:56 Inhibits Be6.
[Predecessor: Vorgänger: 15.Qxc4 Be6 16.d5 cxd5 17.exd5 Rac8 18.Qe2 Bd7 19.Ne5 Be8 20.Nc4 Qb4 21.Na2 ½-½ (27) Schaefer,U-Axmann,S DESC email 2016]
15...Bd7 4:00 **16.Ne5** 4:34 **cxd5** 43 **17.Nxd7** 6
[17.exd5∓ might be stronger. Qb4 18.Nxc4]
17...Nxd7∓ 24
[17...Rxd7 18.e5 e6 19.exf6 Bxf6 20.Nb5±]
18.Nxd5 58 **Qxb2** 2 **19.Rc2** 1:21 **Qa3** 53 **20.Rxc4** 16
[20.Qxc4∓ Ne5 21.Qc7]
20...e6-+ 57 **21.Rd3** 1:28 **Qa1+** 14
[21...Qf8-+ 22.Ne3 Nb6 23.Rxd8 Qxd8]
22.Rd1∓ 3 **Qa3** 1
[Of course not 22...exd5 23.Rxa1 dxc4 24.Rc1= *(24.Rb1 c3∓)*]
[22...Qe5∓ 23.f4 Qh5 24.Ne7+ Kf8 25.Qxh5 gxh5]
23.Rd3-+ 1:34 **Qa1+** 2
[23...Qf8-+ and Black stays clearly on top. 24.Ne3 Nb6 25.Rxd8 Qxd8]
24.Rd1∓ 1 **Qa3** 0 Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.37
[Reject 24...exd5 25.Rxa1 dxc4 26.Rc1= *(26.Rb1 c3∓)*]
[Black should try 24...Qb2∓ 25.Qxb2 Bxb2]
½-½

D12

□ **Le,Quang Liem** **2728**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (6.1)
[TA]

Rapid 15min+10sec **1.d4** 0 **d5** 0 **2.c4** 3 **c6** 2 **3.Nf3** 1 **Nf6** 1 **4.e3** 2 **Bf5** 2 **5.Nc3** 1 **e6** 2 **6.Nh4** 2 **Be4** 2 **7.f3** 2 **Bg6** 1 D12: Slav Defence: 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 e3 Bf5. **8.Bd2** 2 **Be7** 4 **9.Nxg6** 36 **hxg6** 0 White has an edge. **10.Qc2** 1 **Nbd7** 2 **11.0-0-0** 9 **dxc4** 2 **!?' !?' !?'** An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **12.Bxc4** 1 **b5** 0 **13.Be2** 8 **a6** 1 **14.Kb1**

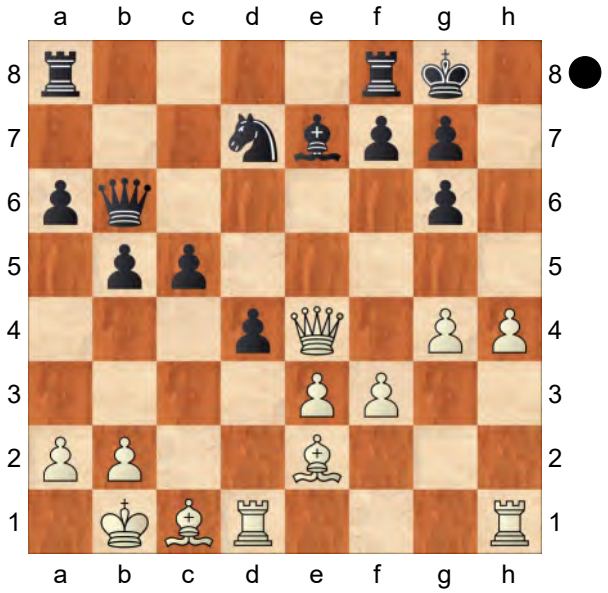
34 **c5** 6 **15.d5** 1 **exd5** 4 **16.Bc1** 18



Qb6!?N 6 An interesting novelty. New and interesting.Theoretisch interessant.

[Predecessor: Vorgänger: 16...Nb6 17.f4 Qc7 18.g4 0-0-0 19.g5 Nh5 20.Bf3 d4 21.Ne2 Bd6 22.exd4 c4 1-0 (65) Tin,J (2552)-Laurusas,T (2561) Chennai 2022 1-0 (65) Tin,J (2552)-Laurusas,T (2561) Chennai 2022]

17.g4 36 **d4** 58 **18.Ne4** 9 **0-0** 33 **19.h4** 2:06 **Nxe4** 5:27 **20.Qxe4** 0



Nf6! 1 **21.Qc2** 58

[21.Qxe7? Rfe8 22.Qxe8+ Rxe8-+]

21...Nd5 1:28 Strongly threatening ... Nb4. **22.h5** 1:51

[22.Qe4 Nf6 23.Qc2 *(23.Qxe7? Rfe8-+)* 23...Rfd8∓]

[22.exd4!= Nb4 23.dxc5]

22...Nb4∓ 3:01 Black is more active.

[Don't play 22...Nxe3 23.Bxe3 dxe3 24.hxg6±]

23.Qe4 9 **Rae8** 1

[23...Qa5? 24.a3 Qb6 25.Qxe7+-]

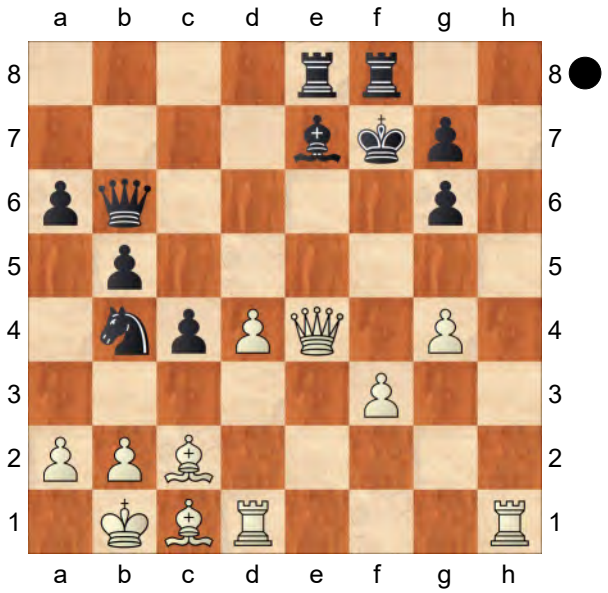
24.hxg6 40 **fxg6** 50 **25.Bd3** 3:40 **Kf7** 2:06

[25...Rf6!∓ aiming for ...Re6. 26.g5 Re6]

26.exd4 52

[26.Qf4+= Kg8 27.Qe4 *(27.Qh2? Qe6-+)*]

26...c4!→ 9 Black attacks. **27.Bc2** 1:09



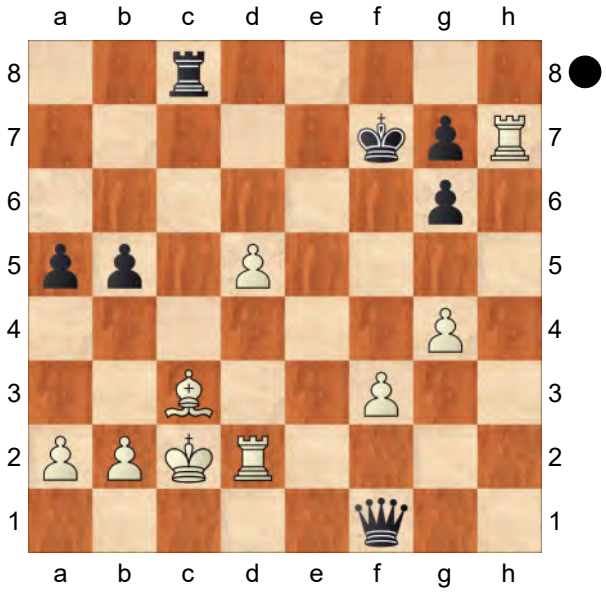
Bg5! 39 Prevents Qf4+. **28.Bxg5** 5 **Rxe4** 1 Dancing on a razor blade. **29.Bxe4** 0 A strong pair of Bishops. **29...Qd6** 52 **30.d5!** 13 **a5** 39 **31.Be3** 46

[Better is 31.Rd4!∓]

31...Re8∓ 45 **32.Bd4** 14 **Nd3** 2

[32...Nxd5? 33.Be3! Rd8 34.Rxd5 Qxd5 35.Bxd5++-]

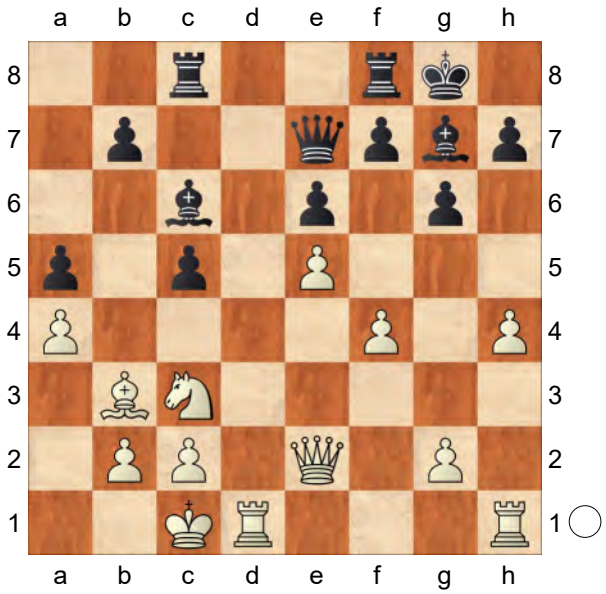
33.Rh7 31 **Rg8** 1 **34.Be3** 1:06
[34.Rhh1∓]
34...Qe5-+ 48 **35.Bxd3** 8 Threatens to win with Be4. **35...cxd3** 15 **36.Rxd3** 5 **Rd8** 3 **37.Bd4?** 1:49 This move loses the game for White.
[37.Rh1∓]
37...Qe1+ 17 **38.Kc2** 1 **Qe2+** 26 **39.Rd2** 3 **Qc4+** 0 **40.Kb1** 42 **Qf1+** 9 **41.Kc2** 1 **Rc8+** 23 **42.Bc3** 3



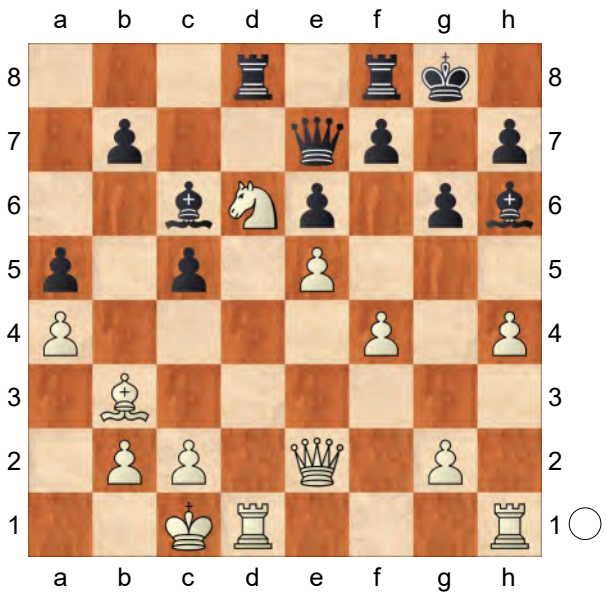
b4! 2 Pin **43.Rxg7+** 2 **Kf8** 1 **44.d6** 19 **bxc3** 6 **45.Rc7** 7 **cxd2** 7 **46.Rxc8+** 1 Endgame KQ-KR **46...Kf7** 0 **47.Kxd2** 1 **Qf2+** 6 **48.Kc1** 7 **Qg1+** 59 **49.Kc2** 3 **Qh2+** 30 **50.Kc1** 34 **Qxd6** 0 **51.Rc3** 2 **Kf6** 8 **52.a3** 1:07 **Ke5** 5 **53.Kc2** 5 **Kf4** 16 **54.Kc1** 4 **g5** 7 **55.Kc2** 1 **Qe6** 8 **56.a4** 41 **Qa2** 11 **57.Kc1** 48 **Qa1+** 9 **58.Kc2** 1 **Qxa4+** 1 **59.Kb1** 1 **Qd1+** 29 **60.Ka2** 1 **Qxf3** 16 **61.Rxf3+** 2 **Kxf3** 0 **62.Ka3** 5 Black mates. **62...Kxg4** 1 KPP-KP **63.Ka4** 1 **Kf5** 1 **64.b4** 0 **axb4** 0 **65.Kxb4** 1 **Ke4** 2 **66.Kc3** 3 **Ke3** 1 Weighted Error Value: White=0.54/ Black=0.05 (flawless)
0-1

B78
□ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2731**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
ProChessLeague (Int.-m/3-rapid) 157/86
[Paunovic,Tomislav]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.0-0-0 Rc8 11.Nxc6 Bxc6 12.Bb3 a5 13.a4 Qe8 14.Qe2 Nd7 15.h4 Nc5 16.Bxc5 dxc5 17.e5
[17.h5]
17...e6 18.f4 Qe7 Diagram



19.Nb5N
[19.Bc4 Rcd8 20.g3 Bxh1 21.Rxh1 f6 22.h5 fxe5 23.hxg6 hxg6 24.Qg4 Rf6 25.Ne4 exf4 26.c3 f3 27.Nxf6+ Qxf6 28.Bxe6+ Kf8 29.Bc4=]
19...Rcd8?
[19...Bh6 20.g3!? *(20.Qg4? Bxb5 21.axb5 c4 22.Ba2 c3 23.Rd6 Rc5-+; 20.Kb1 Bxf4 21.Nd6 Rcd8 22.c3⩱)* 20...Bxh1 21.Rxh1 c4! 22.Bxc4 Qb4 23.b3⩲]
20.Nd6 Bh6 Diagram
[⌓20...h5]



21.Qg4! Kh8 22.Kb1 f6?!
[22...f5 23.Qg3±]
23.h5 f5 24.Qg3 g5 25.fxg5 f4 26.Qg4+- Bxg5
[26...Qxg5 27.Qxe6 Rd7 28.Rhe1]
27.Bxe6 f3
[27...Be8 28.Bc4]
28.Nf7+ Rxf7 29.Rxd8+ Qxd8 30.Bxf7 fxg2 31.Rd1 Qe7 32.h6! Bd7 33.Qxg2
[33.Rxd7 Qxd7 34.Qxd7 g1Q+ 35.Ka2]
33...Bf5 34.e6 c4 35.Rg1
1-0

E10

□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2756**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2728**
EU-Cup 37th Mayrhofen (7.1) 09.10.2022
[Demuth,Adrien]

Anand had one of the biggest palmares in chess, but in opposition to Kasparov or Kramnik, he hasn't announced yet his retirement, even if it becomes clear that he is playing fewer games than some years ago. Still, at the age of 52, he is among the Top 10 in the World.
In this game, he has to meet his fellow countryman, who recently entered the 2700-club. Erigeisi's fast rise ensures him to become a star in the coming years, but right now, the Tiger of Madras can still bite.Anand hatte einen der größten Lebensläufe im Schach, aber im Gegensatz zu Kasparov oder Kramnik hat er noch nicht seinen Rücktritt angekündigt, auch wenn deutlich wird, dass er weniger Partien spielt als noch vor einigen Jahren. Mit 52 Jahren ist er immer noch unter den Top 10 der Welt.
In diesem Partie muss er sich mit seinem Landsmann messen, der kürzlich in den 2700er-Club aufgestiegen ist. Erigeisis schneller Aufstieg garantiert ihm, dass er in den kommenden Jahren ein Star wird, aber im Moment kann der Tiger von Madras noch zubeißen. **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3** Anand has always been exclusively a Ruy Lopez player against 1.e4 e5, and he sticks to it. Anand war immer ein reiner Spanisch-Spieler gegen 1.e4 e5, und er bleibt dabei. **3...a6** Erigaisi doesn't chose a classical path, and decides to give a modern approach to the opening. Black is recently trying to show equality in this line. Erigaisi wählt nicht den klassischen Weg, sondern entscheidet sich für einen modernen Ansatz in der Eröffnung. Schwarz versucht neuerdings, in dieser Variante Ausgleich zu zeigen. **4.Nc3!?** Also a modern approach. Instead of the classical c3-d4 plan, White just wants to centralize his pieces and open the position with d4.Auch ein moderner Ansatz. Anstelle des klassischen c3-d4-Plans will Weiß einfach seine Figuren zentralisieren und die Stellung mit d4

öffnen. **4...c5 5.d5 b5 6.Bg5 b4 7.Ne4**
[7.Na4 d6 8.e4 *(8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.g3 Nd7 10.Bg2 Rb8 11.0-0 Be7)* 8...Nbd7 9.Qc2 *(9.dxe6 fxe6)* 9...h6 *(9...Be7)* 10.Bd2 e5 *(10...Be7)* 11.h4 *(11.a3 a5 12.g3 Be7 13.Bg2 0-0 14.0-0)* 11...g6 12.g3
A) 12...Nb6 13.a3 *(13.Nxb6 Qxb6)* 13...Nxa4 14.axb4 *(14.Qxa4+ Bd7 15.Qc2 b3)* 14...Nb6 15.bxc5 Bg4 16.Be2 Bxf3 17.Bxf3 dxc5;
B) 12...Ng4]
7...Be7 8.d6 Again, Anand believes in the centralization of his pieces. Auch hier glaubt Anand an die Zentralisierung seiner Figuren.
[8.Bxf6]
[8.Nxf6+]
8...Nxe4! But Erigaisi is forcing him to retreat his pieces!Aber Erigaisi zwingt ihn zum Rückzug seiner Figuren! **9.Bxe7**
[9.dxe7 Qb6]
9...Qb6!
[9...Qa5 10.b3 *(10.e3 b3+ 11.Nd2 Nc6 12.axb3 Qxd2+ 13.Qxd2 Nxd2 14.Kxd2 Nxe7 15.dxe7 Kxe7)* 10...Nc6 11.Qd3 f5 12.g4 Nxe7 13.dxe7 Qb6 14.Rg1 g6 15.Rd1 Ra7 16.h4 Nc3 17.Rd2 Ne4 18.Rd1 Nc3]
10.Qd3
[10.Ng5 Nxg5 11.Bxg5 0-0 12.e3 f6 13.Bh4 Nc6 14.Bd3 Ne5 15.0-0 Bb7]
[10.e3 b3 11.axb3 Qb4+ 12.Nd2 *(12.Ke2 Nc6)* 12...Nc6 13.Bh4 Nxd6 14.Ra4 Qb6]
10...Bb7 11.Nd2
[11.e3 Nc6 12.Bh4 *(12.Qxe4 Nxe7 13.Qg4 Ng6)* 12...Na7 13.Bg3 Nc8 14.0-0-0 a5 15.Ne5 a4]
11...Nxd2 12.Qxd2
[12.Qg3 Rg8
A) 13.Kxd2 Nc6 14.Qh4 *(14.Bh4 g5)* 14...h6;
B) 13.Qh4 Nc6 14.Kxd2 h6 15.e3 g5 16.Qxh6 Nxe7 17.dxe7 Kxe7]
12...f6 13.Qf4
[13.e3]
13...Nc6 14.Qg4! Anand considers that he ...d6 should be as hard as possible to do with Black.Anand ist der Meinung, dass ...d6 mit Schwarz so schwer wie möglich zu bewerkstelligen sein sollte.
[14.Bxf6 0-0]
14...Nxe7 15.dxe7
[15.Qxg7 Ng6]
15...g6 The only way to organize ...d6. Die einzige Möglichkeit, ...d6 zu organisieren. **16.Rd1!** It's necessary to prevent ...Qh4.Es ist notwendig, ...Dh4 zu verhindern.
[16.0-0-0 Qc7]
16...Kxe7 17.e4 Qc7 18.Bd3 h5 19.Qe2 It seems that White has achieved something. He has a seemingly solid position, with nice squares to occupy on the queenside, such as c5, and the c6-pawn is weak.
But Erigaisi is going to show enough counterplay on the kingside.Es scheint, dass Weiß etwas erreicht hat. Er hat eine scheinbar solide Stellung mit schönen Feldern am Damenflügel, wie c5, und der c6-Bauer ist schwach.
Aber Erigaisi wird genug Gegenspiel am Königsflügel zeigen.
[19.Qxg6 Rag8]
19...g5! Directly fighting against the g3-pawn. Kämpft direkt gegen den g3-Bauern. **20.0-0 Qe5 21.Bc2 Bc6 22.Qe3** Objectively, it was possible to remain still. But Anand tries to force matters. He isn't scared of the knight

coming to g4.Objektiv war es möglich, ruhig zu bleiben. Aber Anand versucht, die Dinge zu forcieren. Er hat keine Angst, dass der Springer nach g4 kommt. **22...Rag8 23.a3**

[23.f3 d6 24.Rd2 Rd8 25.g3 h4 26.f4 gxf4 27.gxf4 Qxb2 28.Ba4 Qc3± Black generally has trouble to get counterplay in this line Schwarz hat im Allgemeinen Schwierigkeiten, in dieser Variante Gegenspiel zu bekommen 29.Rd3 Qxc4 30.Bxc6 Rc8 31.Bd5 exd5 32.exd5+ Kd8]

23...a5?!

[23...Qxb2 24.Qxc5+ Kf7⩲ Black will try to show some compensation, but objectively, White remains at least slightly better. Schwarz wird versuchen, etwas Kompensation zu zeigen, aber objektiv gesehen steht Weiß zumindest leicht besser. 25.Bd3 the old main line, but it's hardly satisfying for Black.die alte Hauptvariante, aber sie ist für Schwarz kaum befriedigend. b3]

24.Rd2! To me, this is a high class move. Anand prevents the move ...Bb6, and frees the c-file, while the knight came there a few moves ago.Für mich ist das ein hochklassiger Zug. Anand verhindert den Zug ...Lb6 und räumt die c-Linie, während der Springer schon vor ein paar Zügen dorthin kam. **24...g4?** Tempting, but Anand has things under control, and it will backfire. Das ist verlockend, aber Anand hat die Dinge unter Kontrolle, und es wird nach hinten losgehen. **25.Kh1 h4 26.f4!**

[26.Kg1]

26...gxf3 Black has 3 pawns for the knight but...Schwarz hat 3 Bauern für den Springer, aber... **27.gxf3! f5!?** Practically speaking, that's probably the best choice.Praktisch gesehen ist das wahrscheinlich die beste Wahl. **28.Rfd1 f4 29.Qe1! h3!? 30.Re2! Qxb2! 31.Ba4!** It anticipates any idea with Rc2+. Black is out of good moves.Antizipiert jede Idee mit Tc2+. Schwarz hat keine guten Züge mehr. **31...Qxa3 32.Qf2 Qxa4**

[32...Bxa4]

33.Qxc5+ Ke8 34.Qd6 Rh4 35.Red2 White takes the queen on the next move, and the game is over. A nice game, where Anand showed he is cold-blooded and accurrate, even at 52!Im nächsten Zug nimmt Weiß die Dame, und die Partie ist vorbei. Eine schöne Partie, in der Anand zeigte, dass er kaltblütig und präzise ist, sogar mit 52! **35...Rg7**

[35...b3]

36.Qb8+ Ke7 37.Qd6++- Kf7 This is also good.Auch das ist gut. **38.Qc7 Rg8+-**

[38...Kg6 39.Qd8]

39.Rd6?? This is the blunder Black was hoping. Dies ist der Fehler, auf den Schwarz gehofft hat.

[39.Rxd7+⇄ The position is balanced! Die Position ist ausgeglichen! Bxd7 This was seen in the game 0-1 (67) Erigaisi,A (2567)-Gukesh,D (2578) Chess.com INT 2021, but here Erigaisi didn't chose the strongest continuation.Dies wurde in der Partie 0-1 (67) Erigaisi,A (2567)-Gukesh,D (2578) Chess.com INT 2021 gesehen, aber hier wählte Erigaisi nicht die stärkste Fortsetzung. 40.Rxd7+! Kg6]

39...Re8!

[39...Kf6]

40.Rxd7+□ Bxd7 41.Rxd7+ Qxd7

[41...Kg6 42.Rg7+ Kf6 43.Rf7+±

White also keeps a little something here, but Black has a solid position, which reminds us of the Philidor Defense, but with a few pieces traded already, which helps Black. Weiß behält auch hier etwas, aber Schwarz hat eine solide Stellung, die uns an die Philidor-Verteidigung erinnert, aber mit einigen Figuren, die bereits getauscht wurden, was Schwarz hilft. *(43.e5+ Kf5!? 44.Qf7+ Kxe5 45.Qc7+ Kf6!* Now, White is unable to play Qa4, as after 5...d5 Jetzt kann Weiß nicht Da4 spielen wie nach 5...d5 *)*]

42.Qxd7+! Re7! 43.Qb5 Rh8

[43...Rh6 44.Kg1 *(44.Qxa5 b3∓* White's knight on a4 can't be protected. Or so it seems!Der weiße Springer auf a4 kann nicht geschützt werden. Zumindest scheint es so! *45.Qb5! Ra7?? 46.Qe5+- Rb7; 44.Qe5 Rg6 45.Qh5 Kg7* Still, I prefer Black here.Trotzdem bevorzuge ich hier Schwarz.*)* 44...Rg6+! A nice difference with 9. Qxg7 Ein schöner Unterschied zu 9. Dxg7 45.Kf1?? Rc7+- 46.Ke2 Rg2+ 47.Kd1 Kf6± 48.Qb8 Rd7+ 49.Kc1 Ke7+- 50.Qxf4?! This offers Black too much counterplay .Dies bietet Schwarz zu viel Gegenspiel. b3]

[43...b3 This is the common approach Dies ist der übliche Ansatz 44.Qxb3! Rd7 45.Kg1 Rh8 46.Kf1 Rhd8]

44.Qe5 Rd7 45.Qxf4+ Ke8= 46.Kg1 Rg8+ 47.Kf2 Rg2+ 48.Ke3 Rgd2 49.Qe5 R7d3+ 50.Kf4 Kf7 51.Qxa5 b3 52.Qc7+

[52.Qh5+]

52...Rd7 53.Qb6 b2! 54.Ke5

[54.Kg3 Rg2+ 55.Kxh3 Rdd2]

[54.c5⇄ With a highly complicated, but balanced position.Mit einer hochkomplizierten, aber ausgewogenen Position. Kf6 55.Qb8]

54...Re7 55.Kf4 Rxh2+-

[55...Kg6]

56.Kg3 Rh1

[56...Re2! 57.Kxh3 Rd7]

57.Qxb2 Rg1+ Rh1 is coming, and Black has no solution to get counterplay. Th1 kommt, und Schwarz hat keine Lösung, um Gegenspiel zu bekommen. Of course not: Natürlich nicht **58.Kf4??**

[58.Kxh3⇄ Kg6!? This is the engine recommendation, but it's not so simple to place the pawn on an exposed square like this one. However, Black can't take it.Das ist die Empfehlung der Engine, aber es ist nicht so einfach, den Bauern auf ein so exponiertes Feld wie dieses zu stellen. Aber Schwarz kann ihn nicht nehmen.]

58...e5+-+ 59.Kf5

[59.Ke3-+ The mate is unstoppable. Der Kumpel ist nicht zu stoppen. Re1+ 60.Kd3 That's too easy for Black Das ist zu einfach für Black *(60.Kf2 h2)* 60...Rd7+!?]

59...Rg6

[59...Rg2 60.Qb6 h2 61.Qh6-+ Kg8]

60.Qh2!

[60.f4 Kg7]

[60.Qd2!! Ree6 61.Qd7+ Kg8 62.Qd8+ Kh7 63.Qd7+ Kh6= I would take White for sure, as he doesn't risk anything here, but the engine claims it's equal!Ich würde auf jeden Fall Weiß nehmen, da er hier nichts riskiert, aber die Engine behauptet, es sei ausgeglichen! 64.f4! h2 65.Qd8 *(65.Qd1 Rgf6+∓ 66.Kg4? Rxf4+! 67.Kg3 Rg6+*

68.Kh3 Kg7) 65...Ref6+⇄ The engine likes Black, but it's not easy to keep the initiative here. Die Engine mag Schwarz, aber es ist nicht einfach, hier die Initiative zu behalten. 66.Kxe5?! This is clearly too weakening for the f4-square. Dies ist eindeutig zu schwächend für das f4-Feld. Kg7]

60...Re8 61.c5! That's so hard to enter such variations, White has various ways to defend. One example line can be as follows: Das ist so schwer, sich auf solche Varianten einzulassen, Weiß hat verschiedene Möglichkeiten, sich zu verteidigen. Eine Beispielvariante kann wie folgt aussehen: **61...Rf6+ 62.Kg5 Rg8+ 63.Kh5 Rh8+ 64.Kg5 Rg6+ 65.Kf5 Rh5#**

1-0

D87

□ **Praggnanandhaa,Rameshbabu 2684**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2722**
155/159 Wijk aan Zee 2023
[Cabrilo,Goran, OK]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 c5 8.Ne2 0-0 9.0-0 Nc6 10.Be3 b6 10...Bg4 is the modern continuation. 10...Lg4 ist die moderne Fortsetzung.

11.Qd2

[Praggnanandhaa had been successful with 11.h4 a few months earlier against Anish Giri, as you can see in the notes to Mchedlishvili, M - Petriashvili, N Tbilisi 2022, which is analyzed elsewhere in this month's update.]

11...Bb7 12.Rac1 e6

[There are plenty of similarities between the present game and that of Duda, J - Nepomniachtchi, I Opera online rapid 2021, where 12...Rc8 13.Rfd1 e6 occurred, see the archives for a comparison.]

13.f3 Flear,Glenn: 'A sensible move just protecting the e4-pawn, thus tidying up. However, (for theory purists out there who want to know!) I have to admit that there doesn't seem to be any objective pull from here.' **13...Rc8**

[Various other moves seem to lead to equality: 13...Qe7 14.Rfd1 Rfd8 15.Bg5 (a slight inconvenience for Black who does well to avoid the weakening 15...f6) Bf6 16.h4 h5 17.Qf4 (the most forcing) Bxg5 18.Qxg5 Qxg5 19.hxg5 Rac8 Molina, R - Dounis, A Titled Tuesday online blitz 2021, and Black is solid enough.]

[13...cxd4 14.cxd4 Na5 15.Bd3 Rc8 16.Rxc8 Qxc8 17.Rc1 *(17.h4 Nc4⇄)* 17...Qd7 18.h4 Rc8 19.h5 Rxc1+ 20.Qxc1 Qc6 21.hxg6 *(21.h6 Qxc1+ 22.Bxc1* and now f6 or f8, but not h8 for the bishop*)* 21...hxg6 22.Kf2 Qxc1 23.Bxc1 Nc6 24.Bb2 Kf8 25.Ke3 Ke8 Vardan, N - Kovchan, A Novi Sad 2022, and a draw was soon agreed.]

14.h4 Flear,Glenn: 'A gambit, daring the opponent to snatch a 'warm' pawn.'

[Routine play doesn't lead very far: 14.Rfd1 cxd4 15.cxd4 Qd6 16.Bh6 *(16.h4* is more testing*)* 16...Bxh6 17.Qxh6 Na5 18.Bd3 Rxc1 19.Qxc1 Rc8 20.Qd2 *(20.Qg5* didn't work out well for White in Gaifullin, A - Kokarev, Dm Sochi 2017, see the archives*))* 20...e5= Nakamura, H - Vachier-Lagrave, M London 2018. Experience suggests that h2-h4 at some point is

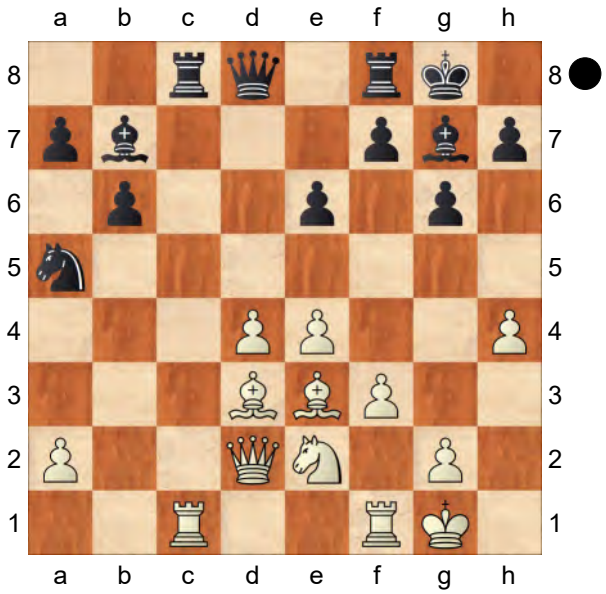
the best way to trouble the opponent.]

14...Na5

[14...cxd4 - 150/165 15.cxd4 Qd6 *(bad is 15...Qxh4? 16.Bg5 Qh5 17.Ng3 Bxd4+ 18.Rf2)* 16.h5 Rfd8 17.Rfd1 Na5 18.Bd3 Nc6 (a bit negative, perhaps?) 19.e5 Qb4 20.Be4± Gukesh, D - Svidler, P Struga 2021, Black was a little passive.]

[Even worse is capturing the pawn immediately: 14...Qxh4?? 15.Bg5 Qh5 16.Ng3+-]

15.Bd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Diagram



16...Qxh4! Flear,Glenn: 'The principled move to 'lop off' the h-pawn before it causes any damage'

[16...Rxc1 17.Rxc1 Qd7 18.h5± ↑ Rc8 19.h6 Bf8! (see Mchedlishvili, M - Petriashvili, N elsewhere in this update, to understand the danger in dropping back to h8 in such positions!) 20.Kf2 Rxc1 21.Qxc1 f6 22.Qc3 Kf7 23.g4 Sivuk, V - Borisova, E Aktobe 2022, and White has only a nominal space advantage. However, much later, he was able to profit from his advanced h-pawn to win in the endgame.]

17.Bg5 Qh5 18.e5N

[18.Rxc8 Rxc8 19.g4 Qh3 20.Rf2 Nc4 21.Bxc4 Rxc4 22.Qf4 h6 23.Rh2 e5! 24.Qe3 exd4 25.Qb3 Rc3 26.Rxh3 Rxb3 27.axb3 hxg5 28.Nc1 f5⩱]

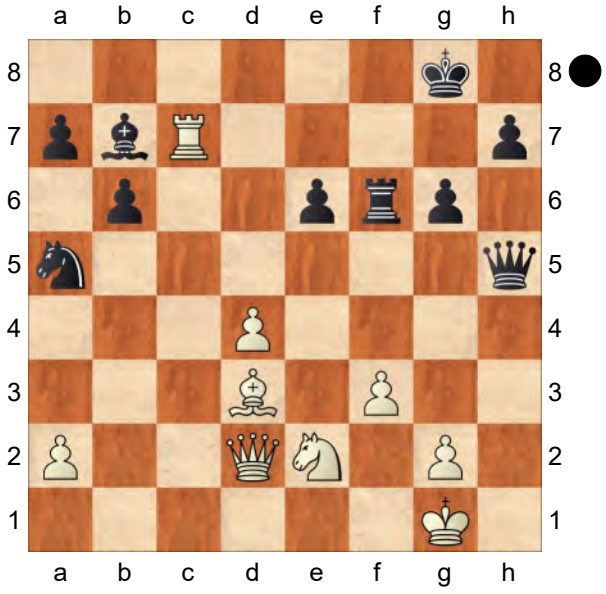
[If 18.Ng3 the queen is rescued with Bxd4+ 19.Rf2 Rxc1+ 20.Qxc1 Bxf2+ 21.Kxf2 Qh2∞]

18...f6□ Flear,Glenn: '!' Flear,Glenn: 'Virtually forced, as otherwise the queen gets trapped.'

[18...Rxc1 19.Ng3 Qxg5 20.Qxg5 Rc7 21.Rc1±]

19.exf6 Bxf6 20.Bxf6 Rxf6 21.Rxc8+ Bxc8 22.Rc1 Bb7 23.Be4 'N' Flear, Glenn: 'Praggnanandhaa's initiative is sufficiently durable to offer him enough compensation for the pawn. Still Erigaisi's position is still perfectly tenable.'

[23.Rc7 Diagram



A) 23...Qh4 24.Qe3 *(24.Qc3 Bd5 25.Rxa7 Nc6 26.Rc7 Bxf3 27.Rxc6 Bxc6 28.Qxc6 Qf2+ 29.Kh2 Qh4+=)* 24...Qe1+ 25.Kh2 Qh4+=;

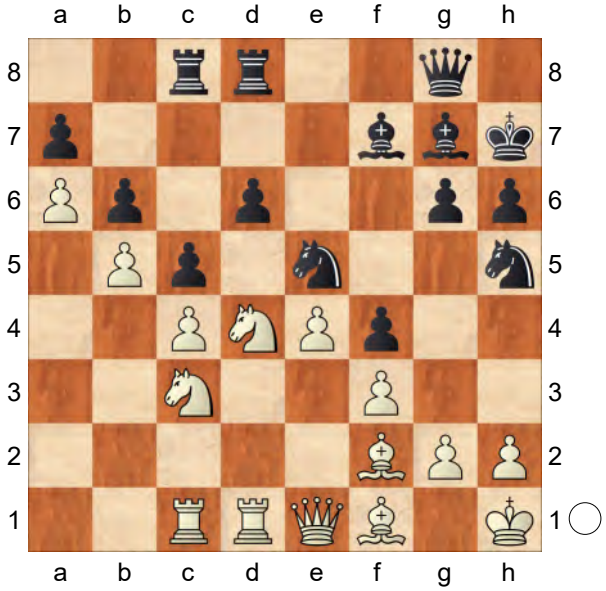
B) 23...Bxf3 24.Rc8+ *(24.gxf3?*

Rxf3-+) 24...Kf7 25.Rc7+ Kg8=]
[Predecessor: 23.Qe3 Qd5 24.Nc3 Qd6 25.Nb5 Qf4 26.Re1 Qg3 27.Rf1 Qf4 28.Re1 Qg3 29.Rf1 Qf4 30.Re1 Qg3 Georgiev,K (2644)-Xu,X (2532) TUR-chT 1st League 2017 (2.5) ½-½]
23...Rf7
[23...Ba6 24.Rc7 Bxe2 25.Qxe2 Rf7 26.Rxf7 Kxf7 27.Qa6 Qh4 28.Qxa7+ Kf6 29.Qb8 Qe1+ 30.Kh2 Qh4+=]
24.Bxb7
[24.Qe3 Bxe4 25.Ng3 Qb5 26.Rc8+ Kg7 27.Nxe4 Qd5 28.Ng5 Nc4 29.Nxe6+ Kf6 30.Rxc4 Qxc4 31.Qe5+ Ke7 32.Ng5+ Kd7 33.Nxf7 Qxf7=]
24...Nxb7 25.Qe3 Qf5 26.Rc6 Nd8 27.Rd6 Qf6 28.Ng3 Qe7 29.Ne4 Flear,Glenn: 'The bind is held in place, but there is some room now for Black to wriggle.' **29...Rf5 30.Qb3 Kg7**
[30...Kf7 31.g4 Ra5 32.a4 h5∞]
31.Qc4 h5 32.Kf1 h4 Flear,Glenn: '!' Flear,Glenn: 'I like this idea, as the white king will be more easily ruffled in future.' **33.Qc8 Rd5** Flear,Glenn: 'It's a relief to trade off the annoying rook on d6!'
[Flear,Glenn: 'Alternatively,' 33...Nf7 34.Rxe6 Qb4 Flear,Glenn: 'is actually playable, as the tempting' 35.Qc6 *(35.Rxg6+ Kxg6 36.Qe6+ Kg7 37.Qxf5* isn't a problem, because (going further) *Qb1+ 38.Kf2 Qxa2+ 39.Ke3 Qxg2 40.Qf6+ Kf8 41.Qxh4* would be about equal.*)* 35...Qb1+ 36.Kf2 g5 37.Rg6+ Kh7 38.Re6 Kg7=]
34.Rxd5 exd5 35.Nc3= Qg5 36.Ne2 Nf7 37.Qb7 Qf5 38.Qxa7 Flear,Glenn: 'It's taken a while, but he has finally got his pawn back. Now Erigaisi decides to bail out with a draw.' **38...h3 39.gxh3 Qxh3+ 40.Kf2 Qh4+**
½-½

E94
□ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2681**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2722**
155/197 Wijk aan Zee 2023
[Kitty Kat]

E94: King's Indian: Classical: 6 Be2 e5 7 0-0: Various Black 7th moves
1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Bg7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 h6 8.Rb1N 0.38/25
[8.Re1± 0.80/21]
[8.dxe5 dxe5 9.Be3 Nbd7 10.Nd2 Kh7 11.c5 Qe7 12.b4 Rd8 13.Nc4 Nf8 14.Qc2 Ne6 15.Nxe5 a5 16.Rad1 axb4 17.Rxd8 Nxd8 18.Nd5 Nxd5 19.exd5 Qxe5 Haves,R (2115)-5. ♔f1_43756 (2373) corr 1898 (5) 0-1]
8...exd4 9.Nxd4 Re8 White is slightly better. **10.f3 c6 11.Bf4!** White is more active. **11...Nh5 12.Be3 f5! 13.Qd2** Black must now prevent e4xf5. **13...f4 14.Bf2**
[14.Bxf4? Nxf4 15.Qxf4 Bxd4+-+]
14...Qg5 Threatens to win with ...Bc8-h3. **15.Rfd1 Nd7 16.b4 Ne5 17.Kh1 Qf6 18.Rbc1** 0.36/18
[18.c5± 0.85/20]
18...Qf7 0.91/19
[18...g5± 0.36/18]
19.a4 0.52/20
[White should play 19.Na4± 0.91/19]
19...b6 0.90/20
[19...a5± 0.52/20 was preferrable.]
20.Qa2 0.51/20
[Better is 20.Nxc6± 0.90/20 Nc3-b5! would now be deadly. Nxc6

21.Nb5]
20...Rb8 21.a5 Bd7 22.a6 Red8 23.Nc2 Be6 24.Nd4 Bd7 25.Rd2 Kh7 26.Rdd1 0.00/26
[26.Rcd1± 0.42/22 is more appropriate.]
26...Qe7 27.Qd2 Rbc8 28.Bf1 Be8 29.Nce2 -0.88/21
[29.Qe1= 0.11/20 remains equal.]
29...Qf7 0.27/20
[29...c5∓ -0.88/21 30.Nb3 *(30.Nb5 Nxc4* Remove Defender *31.Rxc4 Bxb5∓)* 30...Qf7]
30.Nc3 Qg8 31.Qe1 Bf7 32.b5 c5

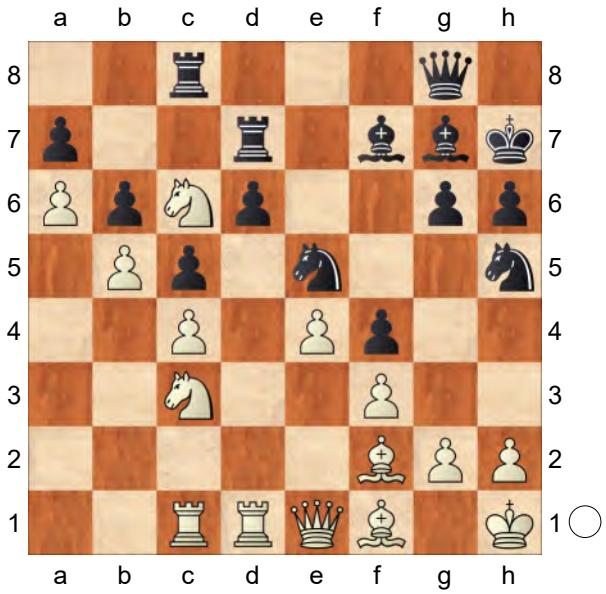


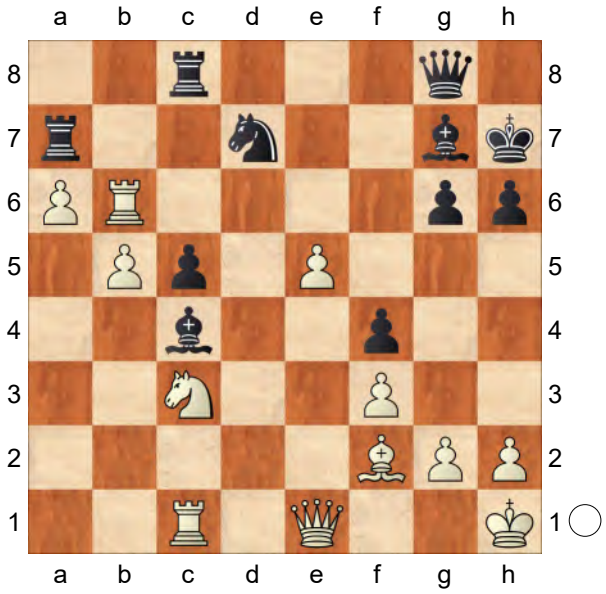
33.Nc6 Rd7
[33...Rxc6 34.bxc6]

(Diagram)

34.Nxa7! Deflection **34...Rxa7 35.Rxd6 Nxc4 36.Bxc4** Remove Defender **36...Bxc4 37.Rxb6 Nf6** Prevents Nc3-d5. **38.e5!↑** Black is under pressure. **38...Nd7**

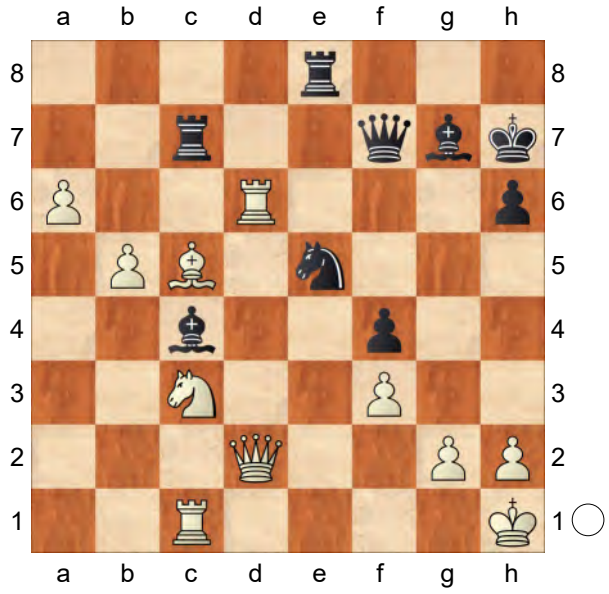
(Diagram)





39.Rxg6 Strongly threatening Qe1-e4. Decoy **39...Nxe5!**
[39...Kxg6? 40.Qe4+ Kf7 *(40...Kg5 41.h4+ Kh5 42.Qf5#)* 41.Qxc4+ Kf8 42.e6 *(42.Qxf4+ Qf7+-)* 42...Bxc3 43.exd7 *(43.Rxc3 Qg5+-; 43.Qxc3 Qxe6 44.Qh8+ Qg8+-)* 43...Rxd7 44.Qxc3+- *(44.Rxc3 Qxc4 45.Rxc4 Rd1+ 46.Bg1 Ra1=; 44.Bxc5+ Kg7+-)*]
40.Rd6
[40.Rxg7+? Qxg7 41.Bh4 Rg8 42.Qe4+ Kh8-+]

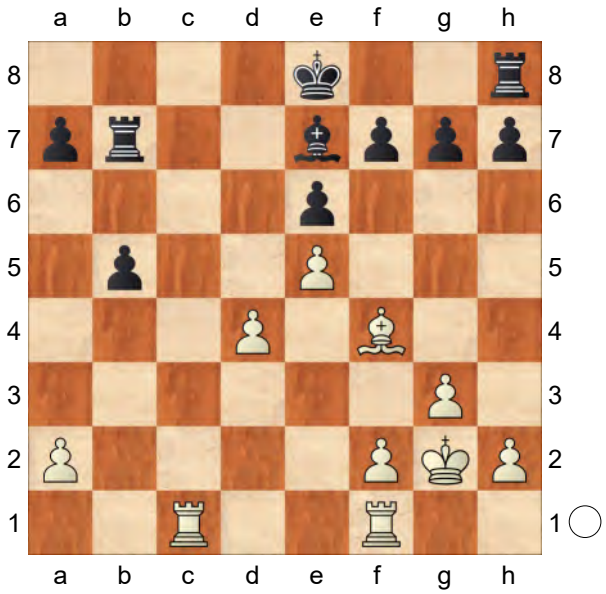
40...Re8 0.99/21
[40...Qf8± 0.35/20 41.Qe4+ Kg8]
41.Qd2±
[41.Bxc5 Nd3 42.Qg1 Rc7 43.Rxd3 *(43.Bb6 Rce7∓)* 43...Bxd3∓]
[41.Qe4+ Kh8 42.Qc2 *(42.Bxc5 Rd7±; 42.Qxf4 Nd3∓)* 42...Rc8]
41...Qf7 42.Bxc5 Rc7 2.29/18
[42...Rd7± 0.76/17 was worth a try.]



This costs Black the game. **43.Bg1!+-** White has strong compensation. **43...Rcc8 44.a7 Be6 45.Ne4 Nc4 46.Qd3** Intending Ne4-f6+ and mate. **46...Bf5 47.Ra6 Bxe4 48.fxe4** aiming for e4-e5+. **48...Ne5** White is clearly winning. **49.Qf1**
[49.Rxc8 Nxd3 50.a8Q f3∓]
49...Rxc1 50.Qxc1 f3 (-> ...f3xg2+) **51.Qf1**
[51.a8B? is a self mate. fxg2+ 52.Kxg2 Qf3#]
51...fxg2+ 52.Kxg2 Qb7 53.Qf5+ Kg8 54.Bd4
Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.25 (precise)
1-0

D41
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Bacrot,Etienne** **2653**
Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early blitz (7)
[Kitty Kat]

D41: Queen's Gambit Declined: Semi-Tarrasch with 5 cxd5
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.g3 Nc6 4.Nc3 d5
[4...g6 5.d4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 d6 7.Bg2 Bd7 8.Nxc6 Bxc6 9.e4 Bg7 10.Be3 0-0 11.0-0 Qa5 12.a3 Rfc8 13.b4 Qd8 14.Rc1 Bd7 15.Qe2 Ng4 16.Bg5 h6 17.Bd2 a5 Hantel,T (2799)-Kavakul,M (2751) corr 98/(212) 2006]
[4...e6 5.Bg2 b6 6.d4 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Bb7 8.0-0 Be7 9.b3 0-0 10.Bb2 a6 11.Rc1 Qc7 12.Nxc6 dxc6 13.Qc2 c5 14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 Bxe4 16.Qxe4 Rad8 17.Qg4 g6 18.Bc3 Rfe8 19.Qf3 Grebnev,A (2513)-Subelj, J (2498) World U20 blitz op 2024 (5) 1-0]
5.d4N
[5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.Bg2 Nxc3 7.bxc3 e5 8.d3 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Rb1 Qc7 11.Be3 Be6 12.Qa4 b6 13.Nd2 Rac8 14.f4 exf4 15.Bxf4 Qd7 16.Nc4 Rfd8 17.Bxc6 Qxc6 18.Qxa7 Bxc4 19.dxc4 Qe4 N,N-N,N 4.g3 20.Qxb6 Bf6 Chapter-2.Nf3 Nf6 3. Nc3 4.g3]
5...e6 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.Bg2 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Nxc3 9.bxc3 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Qxd4 11.cxd4 Bd6 12.e4 Rb8 13.e5 Be7 14.Bf4 0.10/20
[14.Be3± 0.46/20 might be stronger.]
14...b5 15.Rc1 Bb7 16.0-0 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 Rb7 0.88/22
[17...Kd7= -0.08/23]



18.d5 0.45/22 **exd5± 19.Rfd1 0-0 20.Rxd5 Ra8 21.Rb1** 0.01/21
[21.Bd2!± 0.53/22]
21...a6 22.Be3 b4 23.Ra5 Rb5 0.43/24
[23...Bd8= 0.01/21 24.Ra4 a5]
24.Rxb5 axb5 Endgame. KRB-KRB **25.Rb2 f6** The position is equal. **26.e6 Ra6 27.Bd2 Rxe6 28.Bxb4 Bxb4 29.Rxb4=** KR-KR **29...Re5 30.a4 bxa4 31.Rxa4 h5 32.h4 Kf7 33.Ra7+ Kg6 34.Rb7 Re4 35.Kf3 Ra4 36.Rc7 Ra3+ 37.Kg2 Rd3 38.Ra7 f5 39.Ra6+ Kf7 40.Ra7+ Kf6**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise) . Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?
0-1

		C06
□	**Mendonca,Leon Luke**	**2623**
■	**Erigaisi,Arjun**	**2702**

Aimchess Play In op rapid (8) 12.06.23
[Kitty Kat]

C06: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 main lines
Gelashvili,T: 'Inf 80/(286)' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.Bd3 c5 5.e5 Nfd7 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Nf3 Qc7 12.Bg5 0-0 13.Bh4** 13.Bh4 scores better than 13.Rc1.13.Lh4 punktet besser als 13.Tc1. **13...Nh5 14.Bg3** 0.30/22
[14.Rc1± 0.72/19]
14...Nxg3= 15.Nxg3 -0.44/23
[15.hxg3= 0.30/19 Qb6 *(15...g6 16.Nc3 Qg7 17.Bb5 Rxf3 18.Qxf3 Nxd4 19.Qd3 a6 20.Ba4 b5 21.Bb3 Bb7 22.Ne2 Nxb3 23.Qxb3 Rd8 24.Nf4 Qf7 25.Rac1 e5 26.Nd3 Qf8 27.Rfe1 Re8 28.Rc2 Kh8 29.Rec1* Gelashvili,T (2519)-Iljushin,A (2509) 80/(286) Varna 2000 *)* 16.Nc3]
15...g6 16.Re1 Qb6N Inhibits Bd3-b5. Black is slightly better.
[16...Qg7 17.Bb5 Bd7 18.Rc1 Rac8 19.a3 a6 20.Ba4 Bb8 21.Rc3 Ba7 22.Bxc6 Rxc6 23.Ne5 Rxc3 24.bxc3 Bb5 25.h4 Qf6 26.Nf3 Bb8 27.a4 Bc4 28.Qd2 Bf4 29.Qb2 Rf7 30.Ne5 Bxe5 31.Rxe5 Cabiativa,J (2078)-Becker Newmark,J (1868) American Continental Blitz 18th 2024 (3) 1-0]
17.Bc2 Bd7N 0.00/22
[Predecessor: 17...Qxb2
A) 18.Rc1 Rxf3 *(18...Qxa2 19.Ba4∓)* 19.Qxf3 Bd7;
B) 18.Rb1 Qxa2 19.Ng5 -1.29/23 *(19.Ba4!∓* -0.40/22 *)* 19...Rf6 -0.36/20 *(19...Nb4∓* -1.29/23 *20.Re2 Qc4)* 20.Rc1 -1.20/23 *(20.N3e4∓* -0.36/20 *dxe4 21.Nxe4)* 20...Bf4? 0.37/26 *(20...Qb2!∓* -1.20/23 *21.Nf3 Qb6)* 21.Nxh7!± Kxh7 22.Nh5! Bxc1 23.Nxf6+ Kg7 Hoping for ...Bc1-f4. 24.Ne8+ Kf7? 2.63/23 *(24...Kf8!±* 0.67/24 *)* 25.Nd6+? -0.16/24 *(25.Bxg6+!+-* 2.63/23 *Kxg6*

26.Qg4+ Kf7 27.Nd6+ Ke7 28.Nxc8+ Kd8 29.Qxe6) 25...Ke7= 26.Nxc8+! Rxc8 27.Qxc1 Kd7 *(27...Rf8!?)* 28.Bxg6 Nxd4 29.Qh6 -0.38/21 Priborsky,M (215)-Wambach,J (1983) Landesliga Nord 0910 2009 (2.5) ½-½
(29.Qe3!= 0.12/22 Qc4 30.Bd3)]

18.a3 -1.17/19
[18.Ba4= 0.00/22]

18...Rf6 0.32/23 Black is more active.
[18...Qxb2 19.Rb1 Qxa3 20.Rxb7=]
[18...Rxf3!∓ -1.17/19 19.Qxf3 Qxb2]

19.Re3 Raf8 20.Ba4 Bf4
[20...Qxb2? 21.Rb3+-]

21.Rb3 Qc7 22.Rc3 a6 23.b4 -0.31/20
[23.Ne2± 0.32/25]

23...b5∓ 24.Bb3 Qb6 25.Ra2 Ne7 26.Re2 -0.36/24
[26.Rac2= 0.00/26]

26...Nc8 0.34/20
[26...a5∓ -0.36/24]

27.Rc5± Nd6 28.Ne5 Prevents Nd6-c4

28...Qd8 29.Rc3 -0.29/22
[29.Qe1± 0.46/22]

29...Nc4= 30.Nd3 Bb8
[30...Bc8 simplifies 31.Nxf4 Rxf4 32.Bxc4 bxc4 33.f3 a5]

31.Nc5 Bc8 32.Bc2 -1.07/23
[32.Nf1= -0.14/21 remains equal.]

32...Qd6 0.00/21
[32...e5∓ -1.07/23 White must now prevent ...e5-e4. 33.dxe5 Bxe5]

33.Rb3 -0.63/21
[33.Qe1= 0.00/21]

33...Kg7 -0.10/19
[33...Qe7∓ -0.63/21]

34.Qd3 -0.69/19
[34.Nf1= -0.10/19]

34...Kh8∓ 35.Rb1 Qf4 36.Rbe1 Qh4 37.a4 -0.86/24
[37.Qc3∓ -0.45/21]

37...Rf4 -0.44/25
[37...e5!∓ -0.86/24 ...Bc8-g4 would now be deadly. 38.dxe5 Nxe5 39.Rxe5 Bxe5 *(39...Qxb4? 40.Qxd5 Bxe5 41.Qxe5+-)* 40.Rxe5 Rxf2]

38.axb5 axb5 39.Qc3 Ba7 40.Qa1 Bb6 41.Bb3 -1.16/24
[⌓41.Nh1 -0.71/23]

41...Kg8 -0.57/24
[41...Qf6!∓ -1.16/24 42.Kh1 Qxd4 *(42...Rxd4? 43.Nxe6 Rg8 44.Nxd4+-; 42...Rxf2? 43.Rxf2 Qxf2 44.Rf1+-* Skewer *)* 43.Qxd4+ Rxd4 44.Nxe6 Bxe6 45.Rxe6 Bc7 *(45...Rxf2? 46.Bxc4* Remove Defender *bxc4 47.Rxb6+-)* 46.Bxc4 Rxc4 *(46...dxc4 47.Ne4∓; 46...bxc4 47.Kg1∓)*]

42.Rd1 Qf6 43.f3 -0.86/22
[43.Bxc4∓ -0.39/23 should be considered. bxc4 44.Qb2]

43...Nd6 -0.10/20
[43...h5∓ -0.86/22]

44.Ree1 -0.52/22
[44.Qc3= -0.10/20 feels stronger.]

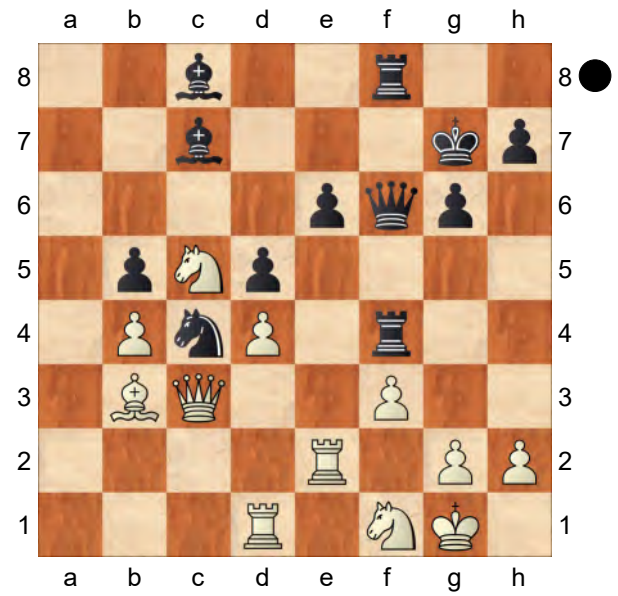
44...Rh4 45.Qc3 Nc4 46.Nf1 Rf4 47.Ng3 Bc7 48.Nf1 Kg7 49.Re2 -1.42/20
[⌓49.Qa1 -0.72/22]

(Diagram)

49...h5 -0.75/20
[Better is 49...e5! -1.42/20 aiming for ...e5-e4. 50.Qe1 *(50.Bxc4? exd4 51.Qa1 bxc4-+)* 50...e4 *(50...exd4 51.Nd3∓; 50...Rxd4 51.Rxd4 exd4 52.Re6∓)* 51.Bxc4 bxc4]

50.Bc2 -1.83/19
[50.Ra2∓ -0.75/20]

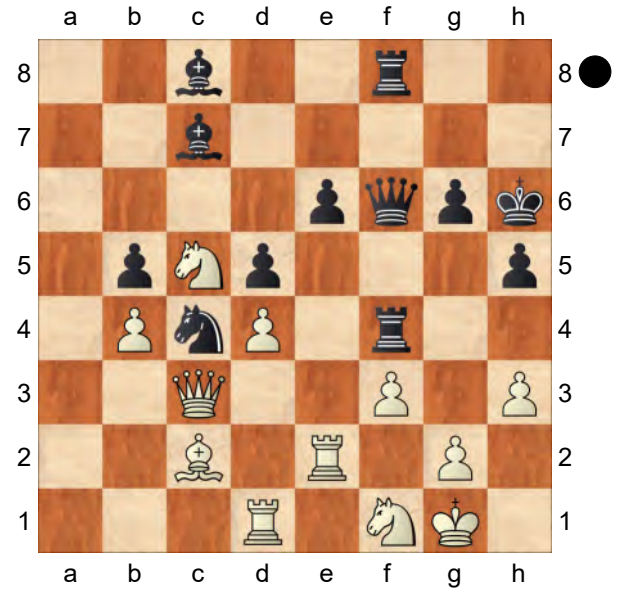
50...Kh6 -0.46/22
[Black should try 50...e5-+ -1.83/19 And now ...e5-e4 would win. 51.dxe5



Bxe5]

51.h3? -2.27/17

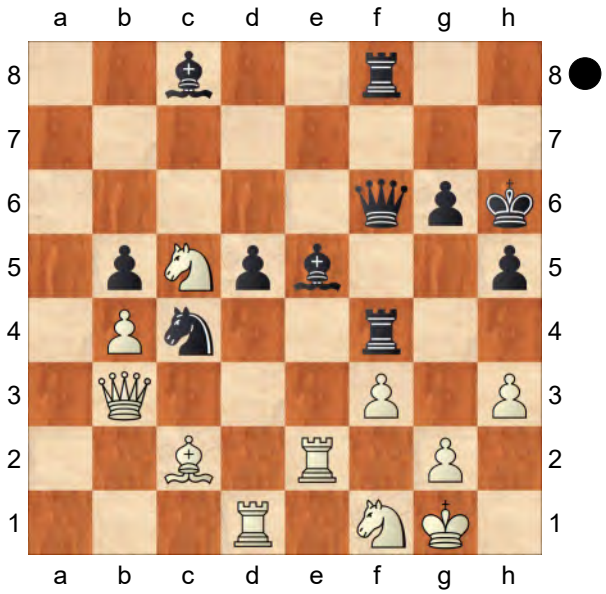
[51.Rde1∓ -0.46/22 Re8 *(51...Qxd4+ 52.Qxd4 Rxd4 53.Nxe6±; 51...Rxd4 52.Nxe6 Rh4 53.Qd3+-)* 52.Ne3 Qxd4 *(52...Rxd4 53.Nxd5 Bxh2+ 54.Kf1=)* 53.Qxd4 Rxd4 54.Nb3 Nxe3 55.Nxd4]



This move loses the game for White.

51...e5!-+ 52.dxe5 Bxe5 53.Qb3 -4.25/20

[53.Qe1 -2.34/19 Bc3 54.Qf2]



53...Bxh3! Deflection **54.Qd3**

[54.Bb1 Bd4+]

54...Rd4

Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=0.27 (precise)

0-1

C41

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2628**

■ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2777**

Wch Rapid Almaty (9) 27.12.2022

[Kitty Kat]

C41: Philidor Defence

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3

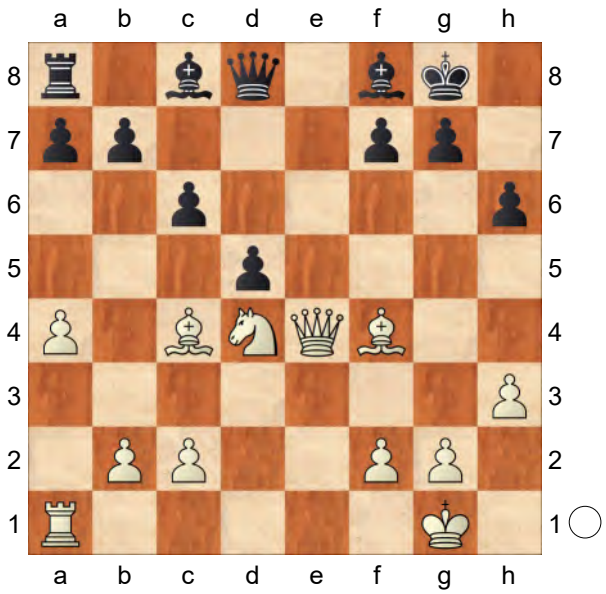
[4.dxe5 dxe5 5.Qxd8+ Kxd8 6.Bc4 Ke8 7.Nf3 Bd6 8.Bg5 Nbd7 9.h3 h6 10.Be3 Bb4 11.0-0-0 Bxc3 12.bxc3 Nxe4 13.Rhe1 Nd6 14.Bb3 g5 15.h4 g4 16.Nh2 h5 17.f4 e4 18.Nf1 Nf5 Hrozek,M (2562)-1.e4 d5 2.d4 Blackmar-Diemer (2670) corr RCCA-10 Group A 2003 1-0]

4...Nbd7 5.Bc4N

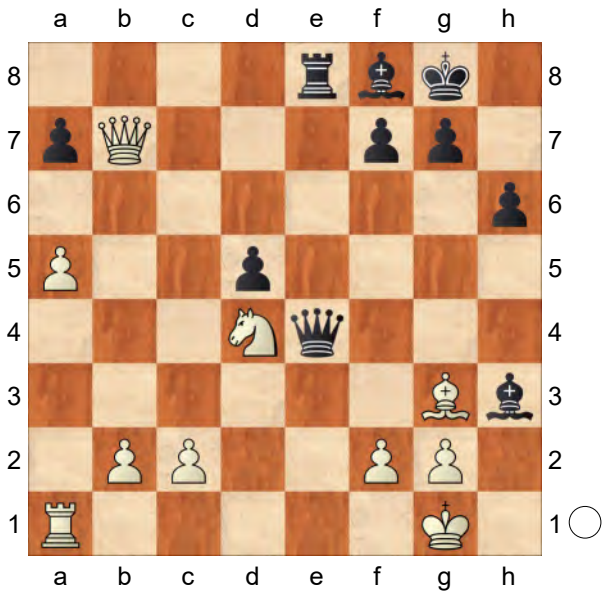
[5.g3 g6 6.Bg2 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.a4 c6 9.Re1 Qc7 10.b3 *(10.h3 Re8*

11.g4 exd4 12.Nxd4 Nc5 13.Bf4 Nfd7 14.Bg3 Ne5 15.Rb1 a5 16.Kh1 Ne6 17.Nxe6 Bxe6 18.f4 Nc4 19.f5 Bd7 20.Qd3 Ne5 21.Qd2 Rad8 22.Qf2 f6 23.Rbd1 Bc8 24.Ne2 g5 Pang,B-Kabylbek,Y (1857) FIDE World Bl Team Pool C blitz 2024 (4.6) 1-0 *)* 10...Re8 11.Bb2 a6 12.a5 exd4 13.Nxd4 Nc5 14.h3 Bd7 15.Qd2 Rad8 16.f4 Ne6 17.Nxe6 Bxe6 18.Ne2 Nxe4 19.Bxe4 Bxb2 6.e3 ♘bd7 7.c5 ♘h5_50973 (2427)-Beu,M (2256) 94/132 San Luis 2005 (5) 1-0]

5...Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Re1 c6 8.a4 h6 9.h3 Re8 10.Be3 exd4 11.Nxd4 Bf8 12.Bf4 The position is equal. **12...Nc5 13.Qf3 Ncxe4 14.Nxe4 Rxe4 15.Rxe4 Nxe4 16.Qxe4 d5**

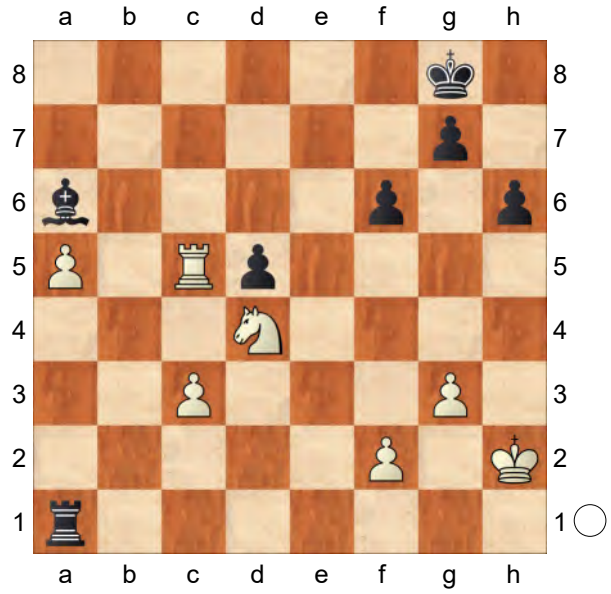


17.Bxd5 cxd5
[17...Qxd5 18.Qxd5]
18.Qe3 -0.01/21
[18.Qe5± 0.36/21]
18...Bd7= 19.a5 Qf6 20.Be5 Qg6 21.Qb3 Re8 0.60/24
[21...Qe4= 0.12/23 was preferrable. 22.Nf3 Re8]
22.Qxb7 0.20/23
[22.Bg3± 0.60/24 Bc6 23.a6]
22...Bxh3 23.Bg3! Active counter play!
23...Qe4 0.99/23
[23...Bd6± 0.32/22]



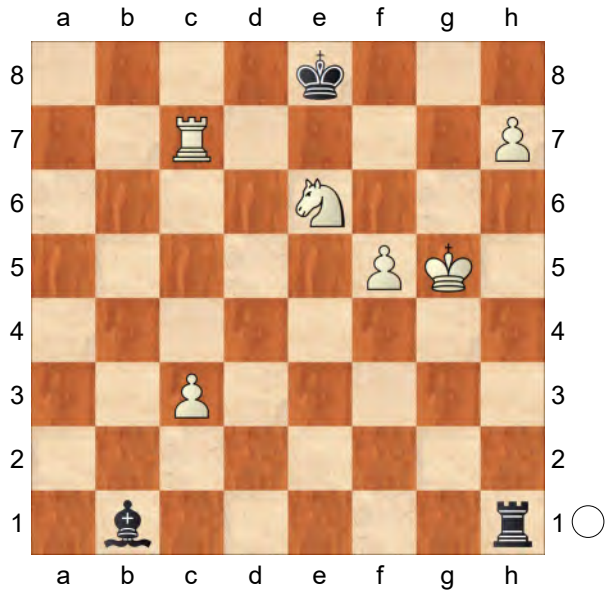
24.Nf3!± Ra1-e1 is the strong threat.
24...Bc8 25.Qxa7 Qxc2 26.Qd4 0.18/22
[White should play 26.Qb8± 0.93/23 a5-a6 would now be deadly. Qc6 27.Ne5]
26...Bc5 27.Qc3
[27.Qxd5 is more complex. Qxb2 28.Re1 Rxe1+ 29.Nxe1 Qc3 30.Nd3]
27...Qxc3 28.bxc3 Ba6 29.Be5 f6 30.Bd4 Bd6 31.Rb1 Bc7 Against Rb1-b6 **32.Bb6 Bf4 33.g3 Bd6 34.Re1 Rc8 35.Re6 Bf8 36.Bd4 Ra8 37.Nd2 Kf7 38.Rc6 Be2 39.Bb6 Bb5 40.Rc7+ Kg8 41.Nb3 Re8** And now ... Bf8-d6 would win. **42.Nd4 Re1+ 43.Kh2 Ba6** 3.38/23
[43...Bd3± 0.44/21]
44.Bc5? 0.31/22
[44.Ra7+- 3.38/23 Bd3 45.Ra8]
44...Bxc5± 45.Rxc5 Endgame. KRB-KRN **45...Ra1** 0.92/21

[45...h5= 0.23/23 keeps the balance.]



46.Rxd5 0.01/25
[46.g4!± 0.92/21]
46...Ra2 47.Kg1 Bb7 48.Rd8+ Kh7 (-> ...Ra2-a1+) **49.f3 Rxa5 50.Rd7 Bc8 51.Rc7 Bf5 52.g4 Bd3 53.Ne6 Ra1+** 1.14/21 White leaves nothing to chance now.
[53...h5± 0.49/21]
54.Kf2± Ra2+ 1.87/24
[54...f5± 1.15/24 was necessary.]
55.Kg3+- Bf1? 3.94/24
[55...Ra6 1.78/22 56.Nxg7 *(56.Rxg7+ Kh8±)* 56...Kg8]
56.Rxg7+ Kh8 57.Rg6 Kh7 58.Rxf6 Rg2+ 59.Kf4 Rc2 60.Rf7+ Kg6 61.Rc7 Kf6 62.Nd4 Ra2 63.Rc6+ Skewer **63...Kf7 64.Nf5 Ra4+ 65.Kg3 h5 66.gxh5 Bd3 67.Nd4 Ra1 68.Kf4 Rh1 69.h6 Rh4+ 70.Kg5 Rh1 71.Rc7+ Kf8 72.f4 Bb1 73.f5** Black must now prevent h6-h7. **73...Ke8 74.h7 Kd8 75.Ne6+** 9.39/5
[⌓75.Rg7 #20/24 Be4 76.Rg8+ *(76.Ne6+ Kc8+-)* 76...Kd7 77.h8Q *(77.h8R Rf1+-)* 77...Rxh8 78.Rxh8 Bg2 79.f6 Bd5 80.Kf4]

75...Ke8



76.h8Q+! Rxh8 77.Rc8+ Skewer **77...Kf7 78.Rxh8** White threatens Rh8-h7+ and mate. **78...Bxf5 79.Kxf5**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.28 (precise)
1-0

C28
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2689**
■ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2754**
Olympiad-44 Chennai (11.3) 09.08.2022
[Erigaisi,Arjun]

1.e4 d6 2.Nc3 e5 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 I opted for the line that I had checked earlier as this was a morning round and there was not much time to prepare. Ich entschied mich für die Linie, die ich zuvor überprüft hatte, da es sich um eine Morgenrunde handelte und ich nicht viel Zeit hatte, mich vorzubereiten.
4...Nc6 5.a3
[5.f4 Na5 6.f5 Nxc4 7.dxc4 g6 8.g4 gxf5 9.gxf5 c6 10.Nf3 Be7 11.Qd3 Rg8 12.Be3 Qc7 13.0-0-0! Bd7 14.Bg5 0-0-0 15.Bxf6 Bxf6

white is better but black does have some play Weiß steht besser, aber Schwarz hat etwas Spielraum 16.Qxd6! The main point is that his pieces are all cramped and he cannot bring the king easily while I would bring in my king and go to c3 with the knight like I did in the game but without wasting any time/allowing counterplayDer Hauptpunkt ist, dass seine Figuren alle eingepfercht sind und er den König nicht einfach heranbringen kann, während ich meinen König heranbringen und mit dem Springer nach c3 gehen würde, wie ich es in der Partie getan habe, aber ohne Zeit zu verschwenden/ein Gegenspiel zuzulassen Qxd6 17.Rxd6 Bg7 18.Rhd1 f6 19.Ne2 Kc7 20.Ng3 Bc8 21.c5+- Rdf8 22.Nh5+- Bh8 23.Rg1 Rxg1+ 24.Nxg1 b6 25.b4 bxc5 26.bxc5+- Ba6 27.Kd2 Rd8 28.Rxd8! Black must try this. Although the position is pretty bad,nowhere close to hopeless sSchwarz muss dies versuchen. Obwohl die Stellung ziemlich schlecht ist, ist sie noch lange nicht hoffnungslos. Kxd8 29.Kc3 Ke7! 30.Kb4 Bf1± 31.Ng3! Ba6 32.Nh5 Bf1 33.c4± black gets a solid setup and the advantage is no longer that bigSchwarz bekommt einen soliden Aufbau und der Vorteil ist nicht mehr so groß Bg2 also works funktioniert auch 34.Ng3! Bg7]

5...Be7 6.Nge2 0-0 7.0-0 Be6 8.f4 d5

[8...Bxc4 9.dxc4 exf4 10.Nxf4 Ne5 11.Qe2 c6 12.Be3 Nfg4 13.Bd4 Bf6 14.Rad1 Qe7 Although it's a pity that team didn't win a medal,I was personally very pleased with my first win over a 2700+ player in classical, that too an elite chess player! Obwohl es schade ist, dass das Team keine Medaille gewonnen hat, war ich persönlich sehr zufrieden mit meinem ersten Sieg über einen 2700 Spieler im klassischen Schach, noch dazu ein Elitespieler! 15.h3 Nh6 16.Nh5 Bg5 17.b4 b6 18.Ng3 Qe6 would have been betterwäre besser gewesen 19.c5! very tough move,the main point is that Black's bishop doesn't get to f5 in the endgames sehr schwieriger Zug, der Hauptpunkt ist, dass der schwarze Läufer im Endspiel nicht nach f5 kommt dxc5 20.bxc5 b5 21.Nb1 Nc4 22.c3+- Rae8 23.Rde1 Bh4 24.Qd3+- Ne5 25.Qe3 Qg6 26.Bxe5 Rxe5 27.Rf3?! Qg5! is the point tist der Punkt 28.Qxg5 Rxg5 29.Ree3 Rxc5 30.Rd3 Rd8± 31.Rxd8+ also wins though gewinnt aber auch Bxd8 32.Rd3 Bb6 33.Nd2]

9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Bxd5 Bxd5 11.f5 Nd4 12.Ng3 Bc6 13.Nce4

just a normal position with some imbalances - White's trump = d5 pawn while Black has his play on the fact that White's king is slightly vulnerable potentiallynur eine normale Stellung mit einigen Ungleichgewichten - Weißer Trumpf = d5-Bauer, während Schwarz sein Spiel darauf ausrichtet, dass der weiße König potenziell leicht verwundbar ist **13...f6 14.Rf2 Rf7**

[14...Qd7 15.Be3 Rad8]

15.Be3 Getting rid of all the b5 ideas. practically I already started loving my position hereBeseitigt alle b5-Ideen. Ich habe praktisch schon angefangen, meine Position hier zu lieben **15...Qd7?! 16.Qg4?! Bxe4?!** Black intends to put the Q on d6 and the other B on d7,the

text move really comes in the way of this plan Schwarz beabsichtigt, die D nach d6 und den anderen L nach d7 zu stellen, der Textzug kommt diesem Plan wirklich in die Quere. **17.Nxe4! Rd8 18.Raf1**
[18.Kh1 a5 19.Rg1]
18...a5 19.Qd1 a4 20.g4?! it's the most natural move but it's important to realize that White keeps a better advantage with the dark squared bishops on the board as he gets to pressurize c5Der natürlichste Zug, aber es ist wichtig zu erkennen, dass Weiß einen besseren Vorteil mit den schwarzfeldrigen Läufern auf dem Brett hat, da er c5 unter Druck setzen kann **20...b6 21.h4 c5?!** gives white the open file for freegibt Weiß die offene Linie kostenlos **22.c3**
[22.Kh1]
22...Nb5?? 23.Qxa4! Qxd3 24.Re1? The reason why I went for this move is that I was in the misconception that my knight belongs on d3 unless it's forced to go to e2 with g5Der Grund, warum ich mich für diesen Zug entschieden habe, ist, dass ich der falschen Auffassung war, dass mein Springer nach d3 gehört, es sei denn, er wird nach g5 gezwungen, nach e2 zu gehen **24...Nd4?** too passivezu passiv **25.Ng3 b5 26.Qa5 Nb3 27.Qa6 Qc4 28.Rg2 Rd6**
[28...Qxg4 29.Qxb5]
29.Qa8+ Rf8 30.Qf3 Rfd8 More or less smooth technique after this point Mehr oder weniger glatte Technik nach diesem Punkt **31.Ne4 Rd3 32.g5 Qf7 33.gxf6 Bxf6 34.Qg4 Rxe3 35.Rxe3 c4 36.Reg3 Rd7 37.Qh5 Re7 38.Qh6 1-0**

E20
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2628**
■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2759**
Wch Rapid Almaty (11) 28.12.2022
[John Emms]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 c5 5.d5 b5
[5...d6 6.e4 0-0 7.Bd3 b5 8.cxb5!? is another move order.]
6.e4 d6 is the new trend. ist der neue Trend. **7.cxb5!?** This move is rare, and for a good reason. In general there's clearly some risk involved in accepting Black's ...b5 gambit in the f3 Nimzo. In addition, Stockfish's instant reaction is one of disapproval. However, in today's game, deep preparation allows many more lines to be used as weapons. It's also worth noting that Erigaisi played 7 cxb5 three times in Almaty, and he scored three wins!
[7.Bd2]
[and 7.Nge2 are the most common choices - see games in the archives.]
7...exd5 8.exd5 0-0
[8...Nbd7!?]
9.Bd3!
[Supporting the d5-pawn with 9.Bc4?! runs into problems against Nh5! with the awkward threat of ...Qh4+.]
9...a6 Typical play from Grischuk, who aims for maximum activity.
[9...Nxd5 10.Nge2! looks reasonable for White. For example, after *(and better than 10.Bxh7+ Kxh7 11.Qxd5 Re8+)* 10...Nf6 11.0-0 d5 12.Bg5 Black's centre isn't as impressive as it looks. Bb7 13.a3 Ba5 14.b4! cxb4 15.axb4 Bxb4? 16.Bxh7+! Kxh7 17.Qb1+ is a tactical idea which justifies White's strategy.]
[Sacrificing another pawn with

9...Nbd7 10.Nge2 c4!? 11.Bxc4 Ne5 could also be considered.]

10.Nge2! Qb6 Preventing 0-0.

[In an earlier round, Rapport sacrificed his c-pawn: 10...c4!? 11.Bxc4 axb5 12.Bxb5 Qb6 13.a3 *(13.Kf1!?)* 13...Bb7 (Erigaisi,A-Rapport,R/Almaty 2022) and here 14.Bf4! Qxb5 15.axb4 Qxb4 16.Rxa8 Bxa8 17.Qd2 would favour White.]

[In the World Blitz Championship Erigaisi faced 10...axb5 and after 11.Bxb5 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.0-0 Re8 14.Bg5 h6 15.Bh4 White had some advantage in Erigaisi, A-Donchenko,A/Almaty 2022.]

11.a3N

[Vorgänger: 11.bxa6 Nbd7! it's difficult to ignore Black's activity. 12.Bf4 Re8 13.Kf1 Ne5 14.Bb5 Bxa6 15.a4 Bxb5 16.axb5 Rxa1 17.Qxa1 Bxc3 18.Nxc3 0-1 (27) Touzane,O (2250)-Kiselev,S (2510) Podolsk 1991]

11...axb5

[There's also 11...Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 *(or 12.Nxc3 Re8+! 13.Kf1 axb5 14.Bxb5 Ba6* with excellent compensation*)* 12...axb5 13.Rb1 with level chances.]

12.Bxb5 Bxc3+

[Keeping the bishop and sacrificing the c-pawn is once again a tempting option: 12...c4!? 13.Bxc4 Nbd7 etc.]

13.Nxc3 Ba6 14.Bxa6 Qxa6 15.Kf2 Nbd7 Black certainly enjoys some Benko-style compensation here, but with some careful play Erigaisi is able to relieve some of the pressure. **16.Qc2 Ne5 17.Rd1 Rfe8 18.Bf4 Nfd7 19.Kg1 c4 20.Ne4**

[20.Bg3! Nd3 21.a4! is the far-from-obvious way to dampen Black's initiative. The point is that N7c5 can be met effectively by 22.Nb5! Qb6 23.Kh1]

20...Nd3 21.Bg3 N7e5 22.Kh1 Rab8 23.Rab1 h6 Preventing Ng5 in preparation of ...f5, but there was no need to do so.

[After 23...f5! 24.Ng5?! *(24.Nc3 Qa7!* maintains the pressure.*)* 24...Rb3! 25.Ne6 Reb8 Black can play around the knight on e6.]

24.h3 f5 25.Nc3 Qb6 26.Rd2 Qb3 Black still has some play for the pawn after the queen exchange, but the momentum of the game seems to shift here.

[26...Qd4 intending ...Rb3 makes sense.]

27.a4 Qxc2 28.Rxc2 Rb4 29.Bh2 Nc5 30.Re1

[30.Nb5!±]

30...Ncd3 31.Rb1 Nc5

[31...Ra8!]

32.Re2! Ra8?

[32...Kf7 is more resilient, but by this stage White already had a significant advantage.]

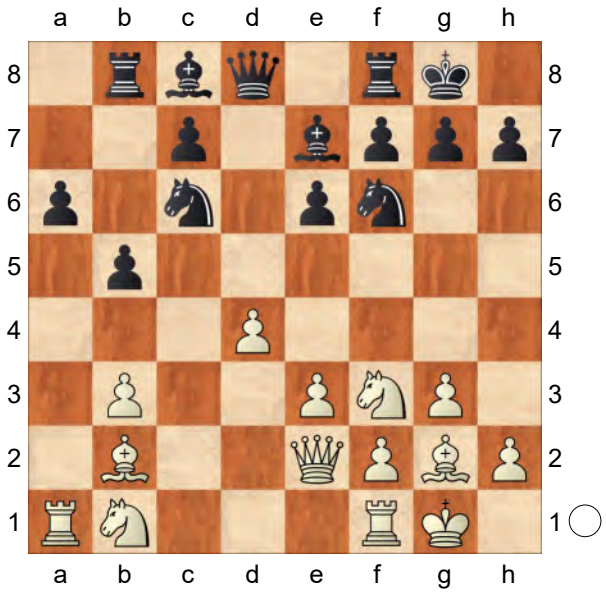
33.Bxe5 dxe5 34.Rxe5 Rd8 35.a5 f4 36.d6 Nd3 37.Rd5 Kf7 38.a6 Ke6 39.Ra1 Kd7 40.a7 Ra8 41.Nb5 Rxb2 42.Nc7 Rxa7 43.Rxa7 Rb1+ 44.Kh2 Nf2 45.g4 Nd3 46.Nb5+ Ke6 47.Nc3 Rb2+ 48.Kg1

1-0

E04

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Grandelius,Nils** **2660**
Malmoe 156/103 2023
[Arsovic,Goran]

1.d4 Grandelius,Nils Grandelius, Nils **1...d5** Grandelius, Nils: 'Preparing for such a talented player as Erigaisi is always a great enjoyment for me. He can play literally any opening with any colour, and is hard to predict. Still, I had a feeling he would play 1.e4, as he did against me in the same tournament last year. That time we played a Scotch, but this year I decided to see what he had in mind against the Najdorf.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Sich auf einen so talentierten Spieler wie Erigaisi vorzubereiten, ist für mich immer ein großes Vergnügen. Er kann buchstäblich jede Eröffnung mit jeder Farbe spielen und ist schwer vorherzusagen. Dennoch hatte ich das Gefühl, dass er 1.e4 spielen würde, wie er es letztes Jahr im selben Turnier gegen mich getan hat. Damals spielten wir einen Schotten, aber dieses Jahr beschloss ich zu sehen, was er gegen Najdorf vorhatte.' **2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 a6 6.0-0** Grandelius, Nils: 'The old mainline has perhaps gone slightly out of fashion nowadays, but it's still very much a challenging approach and something I've played myself quite a bit with White.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Die alte Hauptvariante ist heutzutage vielleicht etwas aus der Mode gekommen, aber es ist immer noch ein sehr herausfordernder Ansatz und etwas, das ich selbst ziemlich oft mit Weiß gespielt habe.' **6...Nc6 7.e3 Rb8 8.Qe2 b5** Grandelius, Nils: '!?' Grandelius,Nils: '!?'Grandelius, Nils: 'An rare and old line. My intention was to take Erigaisi out of his preparation as early as possible. The only downside is that there are good reasons why this line isn't popular anymore...'Grandelius, Nils: 'Eine seltene und alte Variante. Meine Absicht war es, Erigaisi so früh wie möglich aus seiner Vorbereitung zu nehmen. Der einzige Nachteil ist, dass es gute Gründe gibt, warum diese Variante nicht mehr populär ist...' **9.b3 cxb3** Grandelius, Nils: 'This is the point of the line. It looks strange to lose a tempo so early, but Black's idea is to clarify the situation in the center immediately, and then get castled.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Das ist der Sinn der Variante. Es sieht seltsam aus, so früh ein Tempo zu verlieren, aber die Idee von Schwarz ist es, die Situation im Zentrum sofort zu klären und dann zu rochieren.' **10.axb3 Be7 11.Bb2 0-0** Diagram



12.Nbd2N Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius,Nils: '?!'Grandelius, Nils: 'Played after a long think. It was clear Erigaisi was out of book by now.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Gespielt nach langem

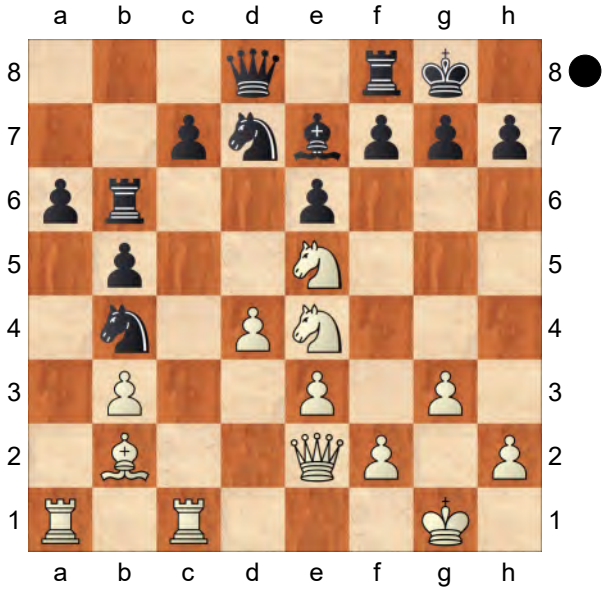
Nachdenken. Es war klar, dass Erigaisi jetzt nicht mehr im Buch war.' **12...Bb7** Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius,Nils: '?!' Grandelius, Nils: 'This was critized in the commentary room by L'Ami and Brynell, and for good reason. I obviously understood that playing this and ...Bxf5 next move is losing a tempo, but I didn't like the alternative.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Dies wurde im Kommentarraum von L'Ami und Brynell kritisiert, und das aus gutem Grund. Ich habe natürlich verstanden, dass man mit diesem Zug und ...Lxf5 im nächsten Zug ein Tempo verliert, aber die Alternative gefiel mir nicht.' **13.Rfc1 Nb4**

[13...Nd7 Grandelius, Nils]

14.Ne5 Grandelius, Nils: 'I've lost a tempo, but despite that Black is doing pretty well. The eternal knight on e5 is simply too strong, and even with the hook on h6, I can still castle.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Ich habe ein Tempo verloren, aber trotzdem steht Schwarz ziemlich gut. Der ewige Springer auf e5 ist einfach zu stark, und selbst mit dem Haken auf h6 kann ich noch rochieren.' **14...Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Rb6! 16.Kg1?!** Grandelius, Nils: '?' Grandelius,Nils: '?'Grandelius, Nils: 'An interesting part of the game. This move looked like the most natural to both me and my opponent, but it turns out it's already a rather serious mistake, as the tempo I gained can be used to full effect. 'Grandelius, Nils: 'Ein interessanter Teil der Partie. Dieser Zug erschien sowohl mir als auch meinem Gegner als der natürlichste, aber es stellt sich heraus, dass es bereits ein ziemlich schwerwiegender Fehler ist, da ich das gewonnene Tempo voll ausnutzen kann.'

[16.Ba3 Qa8+ A key line where White has no way to put pressure on the h4-bishop.Eine wichtige Variante, in der Weiß keine Möglichkeit hat, den h4-Läufer unter Druck zu setzen.]

16...Nd7 Grandelius, Nils: '!' Grandelius, Nils: '!' Grandelius, Nils: 'Already threatening the double attack Qb6.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Droht bereits mit dem Doppelangriff Db6.' **17.Ne4** Diagram



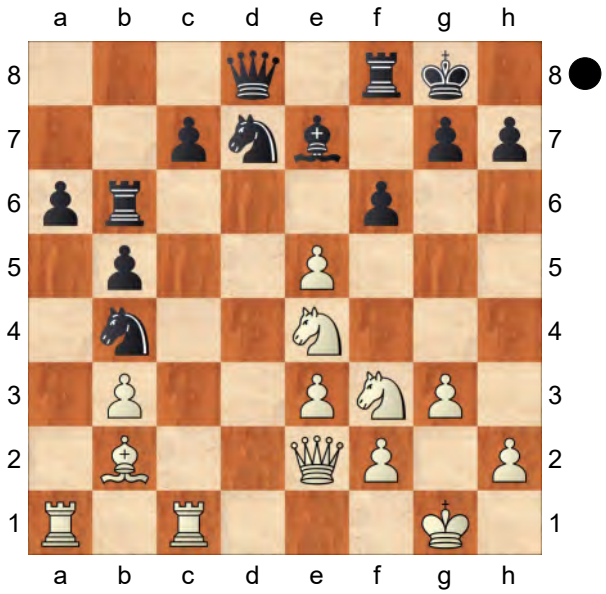
Grandelius, Nils: 'Stepping out of tactical threat, but it loses an important tempo as well.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Geht aus der taktischen Drohung, aber es geht auch ein wichtiges Tempo verloren.' **17...f6!** Grandelius, Nils: 'Another very strong move. Now Bd6 will be another tempo on the next move.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Ein weiterer sehr starker Zug. Jetzt wird Ld6 im nächsten Zug ein weiteres Tempo bedeuten.'

[17...Nxe5 18.dxe5!]

18.Nf3 Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius, Nils: '?!'

[18.Nxd7-+ Qxd7 Grandelius, Nils 19.Nc5! Bxc5 *(19...Qc8)* 20.dxc5 followed by just moving the f8-rook. gefolgt von einem einfachen Zug des f8-Turms. Rbb8 Grandelius, Nils]

18...e5 19.dxe5 Diagram



19...fxe5! 20.Rd1 Grandelius, Nils: '!?' Grandelius,Nils: '!?'Grandelius, Nils: 'A good practical try, but of course there isn't enough for the rook.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Ein guter praktischer Versuch, aber es reicht natürlich nicht für den Turm.'

[20.Nxe5-+ Nxe5 Grandelius, Nils 21.Bxe5 Qd5]

20...Qc8 21.Rac1 c5 22.Ne1 Grandelius, Nils: 'Necessary as Qxb2# was a threat, but now my rook can join the defences .'Grandelius, Nils: 'Notwendig, da Dxb2# eine Drohung war, aber jetzt kann mein Turm die Verteidigung verstärken.'

[22.Nxe5 Grandelius, Nils Nxe5 wins the h-pawn .gewinnt den h-Bauern. 23.Bxe5 Grandelius, Nils Qf5 The h-pawn is never dangerous, for instance Der h-Bauer ist nie gefährlich, zum Beispiel 24.Nxc5 Qxe5 and it won't get any furtherund weiter kommt er nicht .*(24...Rc6!* The best try, trying to get some counterplay on the queenside as well. Black is still winning, but with the king on h5 it would be much smoother. Der beste Versuch, auch am Damenflügel etwas Gegenspiel zu bekommen. Schwarz gewinnt immer noch, aber mit dem König auf h5 wäre es viel glatter. *25.e4!* Grandelius, Nils still the right way!immer noch der richtige Weg! *Qxe5!* Grandelius, Nils was more or less immediately winning. Once the king reaches h5 or g5, it will also reach g4, when the f5-pawn won't survive for long.war mehr oder weniger sofort gewonnen. Sobald der König h5 oder g5 erreicht, wird er auch g4 erreichen, wo der f5-Bauer nicht lange überleben wird. *26.Nd7 Qe6 27.Nxf8 Bxf8)* 25.Nd7 Qe6! 26.Nxb6 Grandelius, Nils Qxb6]

22...Nf6 23.Nxf6+ Bxf6 Grandelius, Nils: 'Making sure I always have squares for my king on the g-file.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Stellt sicher, dass ich immer Felder für meinen König auf der g-Linie habe.'

[23...Rbxf6]

24.Ba3 Grandelius, Nils: 'A sign of desperation for White. Now Black is just a rook up, and the game should finish within very few moves. Instead, I relaxed a bit too early, and immediately allowed an unnecessary tactic.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Ein Zeichen der Verzweiflung für Weiß. Jetzt ist Schwarz einfach einen Turm im Vorteil, und die Partie sollte innerhalb weniger Züge beendet sein. Stattdessen habe ich etwas zu früh entspannt und sofort eine unnötige Taktik zugelassen.'

24...Qe6 Grandelius, Nils: '??' Grandelius,Nils: '??' **25.Rxc5** Grandelius, Nils: '!' Grandelius,Nils: '!' Grandelius, Nils: 'For some reason I had completely overlooked this resource.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Aus irgendeinem

Grund hatte ich diese Ressource völlig übersehen.' **25...Qxb3** Grandelius, Nils: '!' Grandelius,Nils: '!'Grandelius, Nils: 'Despite the blunder it turns out my position is still winning. Very lucky!' Grandelius, Nils: 'Trotz des Fehlers zeigt sich, dass meine Position immer noch gewonnen ist.. Sehr viel Glück!' **26.Bxb4 Qxb4 27.Nd3 Qa3 28.Qc2** Grandelius, Nils: '!?' Grandelius,Nils: '!?' Grandelius, Nils: 'A good practical decision. The attack clearly no longer exists, so White hopes to get some saving chances in the ending.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Eine gute praktische Entscheidung. Der Angriff ist eindeutig nicht mehr vorhanden, so dass Weiß hofft, im Endspiel einige Rettungschancen zu bekommen.' **28...Rd6 29.Rc3 Qa4** Grandelius, Nils: 'Eliminating all counterplay.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Eliminierung jeglichen Gegenspiels. ' **30.Qxa4 bxa4 31.e4 Rfd8 32.Kf1 Rd4** Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius, Nils: 'The first hesitant step. In time trouble I did not grasp the cleanest idea.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Der erste zögerliche Schritt. In Zeitnot habe ich die sauberste Idee nicht erfasst.' **33.f3 Be7-+ 34.Ke2 Bb4 35.Rc2 a5 36.Nf2 Rxd1** Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius,Nils: '?!'Grandelius, Nils: 'A step in the wrong direction. Basically I was waiting for move 40, but White can improve in the meantime.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Ein Schritt in die falsche Richtung. Im Grunde genommen habe ich auf den 40. Zug gewartet, aber Weiß kann sich in der Zwischenzeit verbessern.' **37.Nxd1 a3 38.Nc3** Grandelius, Nils: 'A debatable decision. The pawn turned out to be a big weakness in the game, but without any counterplay White would also have lost in the long run.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Eine fragwürdige Entscheidung. Der Bauer erwies sich als große Schwäche in der Partie, aber ohne Gegenspiel hätte Weiß auf lange Sicht auch verloren.' **38...Bc5 39.Nd5 Bd4 40.Ra2 Bb2** Grandelius, Nils: 'Reaching move 40 I finally hit on the corrcect plan. The king is headed towards the kingside, to attack the h- and f-pawns.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Im 40. Zug kam ich endlich auf den richtigen Plan. Der König geht zum Königsflügel, um die h- und f-Bauern anzugreifen.' **41.Kd3 Kf7 42.Kc4 Rc8+ 43.Kb5 Rc2** Grandelius, Nils: 'Now it's over, as my king finally enters the game.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Jetzt ist es vorbei, denn mein König kommt endlich ins Spiel.' **44.Nb6 Rxh2 45.Nc4 Rh3 46.Nxa3 Bxa3 47.Rxa3 Rxg3 48.Kc4 h5 49.Kd5 h4** Grandelius, Nils: 'Finally starting to hunt down the queenside pawns. It's over.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Endlich beginnt die Jagd auf die Bauern am Damenflügel. Das war's.' **50.Rxa5 h3 51.Ra8 Rxf3 52.Kxe5 g5 53.Kd5 g4 54.Rh8 Rf1 55.e5 Rd1+ 56.Ke4 g3 57.Rh7+ Ke8 58.Rh8+ Kd7 59.Rh7+ Kc6 60.Rh6+ Kc5**
0-1

		B96
□	**Erigaisi,Arjun**	**2701**
■	**Grandelius,Nils**	**2660**
Malmoe 156/103		2023
[Arsovic,Goran]		

1.e4 Grandelius,Nils Grandelius, Nils **1...c5** Grandelius, Nils: 'Preparing for such a talented player as Erigaisi is always a great enjoyment for me. He can

play literally any opening with any colour, and is hard to predict. Still, I had a feeling he would play 1.e4, as he did against me in the same tournament last year. That time we played a Scotch, but this year I decided to see what he had in mind against the Najdorf.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Sich auf einen so talentierten Spieler wie Erigaisi vorzubereiten, ist für mich immer ein großes Vergnügen. Er kann buchstäblich jede Eröffnung mit jeder Farbe spielen und ist schwer vorherzusagen. Dennoch hatte ich das Gefühl, dass er 1.e4 spielen würde, wie er es letztes Jahr im selben Turnier gegen mich getan hat. Damals spielten wir einen Schotten, aber dieses Jahr beschloss ich zu sehen, was er gegen Najdorf vorhatte.' **2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5** Grandelius, Nils: 'The old mainline has perhaps gone slightly out of fashion nowadays, but it's still very much a challenging approach and something I've played myself quite a bit with White.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Die alte Hauptvariante ist heutzutage vielleicht etwas aus der Mode gekommen, aber es ist immer noch ein sehr herausfordernder Ansatz und etwas, das ich selbst ziemlich oft mit Weiß gespielt habe.' **6...e6 7.f4 h6 8.Bh4 Nbd7** Grandelius, Nils: '!?' Grandelius,Nils: '!?'Grandelius, Nils: 'An rare and old line. My intention was to take Erigaisi out of his preparation as early as possible. The only downside is that there are good reasons why this line isn't popular anymore...'Grandelius, Nils: 'Eine seltene und alte Variante. Meine Absicht war es, Erigaisi so früh wie möglich aus seiner Vorbereitung zu nehmen. Der einzige Nachteil ist, dass es gute Gründe gibt, warum diese Variante nicht mehr populär ist...' **9.Qe2**

[9.Qf3 - 90/221]

9...e5 Grandelius, Nils: 'This is the point of the line. It looks strange to lose a tempo so early, but Black's idea is to clarify the situation in the center immediately, and then get castled.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Das ist der Sinn der Variante. Es sieht seltsam aus, so früh ein Tempo zu verlieren, aber die Idee von Schwarz ist es, die Situation im Zentrum sofort zu klären und dann zu rochieren.' **10.fxe5**

[10.0-0-0!? Grandelius, Nils exd4 11.e5 is another sharp line, leading to strange positions after the semi-forced line ist eine weitere scharfe Variante, die nach der halb erzwungenen Variante dxe5 12.fxe5 Be7 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Bxf6 gxf6 when I actually believe Black is fine, due to the potentially very strong bishop pair. zu seltsamen Positionen führt, wobei ich eigentlich glaube, dass Schwarz aufgrund des potenziell sehr starken Läuferpaares gut dasteht.]

10...Nxe5

[10...dxe5 Grandelius, Nils is more popular, but growing up on Polugaevsky's games in the Sicilian, I have a deep love for an uncontested knight on e5!ist populärer, aber da ich mit Polugaevskys Partien im Sizilianer aufgewachsen bin, habe ich eine tiefe Liebe für einen unangefochtenen Springer auf e5!]

11.0-0-0

[11.Bxf6!? Grandelius, Nils This is one of the critical lines, where to be honest I don't believe Black is quite equalizing, but it's also a move I find very unlikely to be played by an unprepared opponent.Dies ist eine

der kritischen Varianten, bei der ich ehrlich gesagt nicht glaube, dass Schwarz wirklich ausgleichen kann, aber es ist auch ein Zug, bei dem ich es sehr unwahrscheinlich finde, dass er von einem unvorbereiteten Gegner gespielt wird. Qxf6 12.Nd5 Qd8 13.Nf3 Followed by O-O-O gives White a dangerous initiative. Gefolgt von O-O-O gibt Weiß eine gefährliche Initiative. An important point is thatEin wichtiger Punkt ist, dass 13...Qa5+ is met strongly by wird stark mit 14.b4! winning further time. mit beantwortet wird, was weitere Zeit gewinnt.]

11...Be7 Diagram

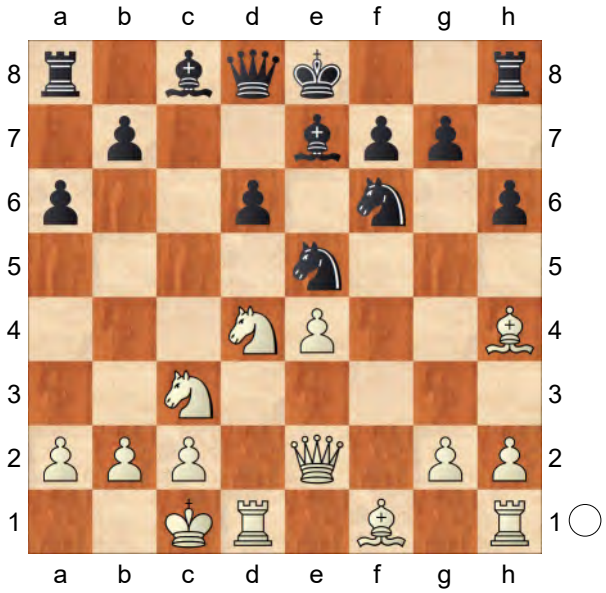


Diagram [#] **12.Rg1N** Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius,Nils: '?!'Grandelius, Nils: 'Played after a long think. It was clear Erigaisi was out of book by now.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Gespielt nach langem Nachdenken. Es war klar, dass Erigaisi jetzt nicht mehr im Buch war.'

[12.h3]

[12.Nf5]

[12.Nf3! Grandelius, NilsThe best move. White really must challenge the monster knight on e5.Der beste Zug. Weiß muss den Monsterspringer auf e5 wirklich herausfordern. Qa5 13.Nxe5 Qxe5 Trying to keep my e5-square, but the queen is not a good a blockading piece.Ich versuche, mein e5-Feld zu behalten, aber die Dame ist keine gute Blockadefigur. 14.Bg3! Qg5+ 15.Qd2! gives White slightly the better ending due to weak d6-pawn. This was one of the lines that bothered me most in my preparation, but firstly I thought White's edge is not that big, and more importantly that it was unlikely White would play like this. gibt Weiß aufgrund des schwachen d6-Bauern das leicht bessere Endspiel. Dies war eine der Varianten, die mich in meiner Vorbereitung am meisten beunruhigt haben, aber erstens dachte ich, dass der Vorteil von Weiß nicht so groß ist, und zweitens, dass es unwahrscheinlich ist, dass Weiß so spielen würde.]

12...Be6 Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius, Nils: '?!' 'Grandelius, Nils: 'This was critized in the commentary room by L'Ami and Brynell, and for good reason. I obviously understood that playing this and ...Bxf5 next move is losing a tempo, but I didn't like the alternative.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Dies wurde im Kommentarraum von L'Ami und Brynell kritisiert, und das aus gutem Grund. Ich habe natürlich verstanden, dass man mit diesem Zug und ...Lxf5 im nächsten Zug ein Tempo verliert, aber die Alternative gefiel mir nicht.'

[12...0-0!? Grandelius,Nils: 'The obvious move, but I was afraid of' Grandelius,Nils: 'Der offensichtliche Zug, aber ich hatte Angst vor'

A) 13.g4!? Grandelius, Nils Bxg4 This was the main move I considered, but it looked too risky for me. Das war der Hauptzug, den ich in Erwägung gezogen habe, aber er erschien mir zu riskant. *(13...Nxe4!* A typical Sicilian shot, but I thought White was doing well. Ein typischer sizilianischer Schlag, aber ich dachte, Weiß steht gut. *14.Nxe4 Bxh4 15.Nf5* This is what bothered me. d6 is hanging and the knights are looking scary. Das ist es, was mich gestört hat. d6 hängt und die Springer sehen furchterregend aus. *d5!* However, after this move, that I underestimated, things are working out well for Black.Aber nach diesem Zug, den ich unterschätzt habe, laufen die Dinge gut für Schwarz. *16.Nxh4 Qxh4 17.Rxd5 Bxg4∓* And Qg2 is not possible due to Qe1 with mate!Und Dg2 ist aufgrund von De1 mit Matt nicht möglich! *)* 14.Qg2 followed by Be2 or h3 next. The engines are claiming Black is still OK, but I didn't like it.gefolgt von Le2 oder h3 als nächstes. Die Engines behaupten, dass Schwarz immer noch OK ist, aber mir gefiel das nicht. g6 15.Be2 Bxe2 16.Ncxe2 Nfg4! is the key move to relieve the tension. ist der Schlüsselzug, um die Spannung zu lösen. 17.Bxe7 Qxe7∞;

B) 13.Nf3 Ng6 14.Bg3 Qb6 15.Kb1 Be6∞]

13.Nf5

[13.Nf3 Grandelius, NilsProbably still the best move, but not the idea of Rg1. Wahrscheinlich immer noch der beste Zug, aber nicht die Idee von Tg1.]

13...Bxf5 14.exf5 Grandelius, Nils: 'I've lost a tempo, but despite that Black is doing pretty well. The eternal knight on e5 is simply too strong, and even with the hook on h6, I can still castle.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Ich habe ein Tempo verloren, aber trotzdem steht Schwarz ziemlich gut. Der ewige Springer auf e5 ist einfach zu stark, und selbst mit dem Haken auf h6 kann ich noch rochieren.'

14...0-0

[14...Rc8!? Grandelius, Nils At first I wanted this move, but missed an important ideaZuerst wollte ich diesen Zug, aber ich habe eine wichtige Idee übersehen 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Ne4 This looked annoying to me Das sah für mich ärgerlich aus *(16.Nd5* is objectively better, with an unclear position.objektiv besser ist, mit einer unklaren Position.*)* 16...0-0! I heavily misevaluated this. Ich habe das völlig falsch eingeschätzt. *(16...Be7 17.f6!* is outright bad.ist schlichtweg schlecht. *)* 17.Rxd6 Qa5! It turns out that this is simply great for Black! All my pieces are soon into the attack, whereas Rg1 and Bf1 are doing nothing. Es stellt sich heraus, dass dies einfach großartig für Schwarz ist! Alle meine Figuren sind bald im Angriff, während Tg1 und Lf1 nichts tun. 18.Nxf6+ gxf6 19.Rxf6 Rfd8-+ White can resign!Weiß kann aufgeben!]

15.g4

[15.Bxf6 Grandelius, Nils Bxf6 16.Nd5 was still the more normal route, with a slower game although I am still a fan of Black's chances.

war immer noch der normalere Weg, mit einem langsameren Spiel, obwohl ich immer noch ein Fan von Schwarz' Chancen bin.]

15...Rc8! 16.Be1?! Grandelius, Nils: '?' Grandelius,Nils: '?'Grandelius, Nils: 'An interesting part of the game. This move looked like the most natural to both me and my opponent, but it turns out it's already a rather serious mistake, as the tempo I gained can be used to full effect. ' Grandelius, Nils: 'Ein interessanter Teil der Partie. Dieser Zug erschien sowohl mir als auch meinem Gegner als der natürlichste, aber es stellt sich heraus, dass es bereits ein ziemlich schwerwiegender Fehler ist, da ich das gewonnene Tempo voll ausnutzen kann.'

[16.g5 Grandelius, Nils: '!?' Grandelius,Nils: '!?'Grandelius, Nils: 'This was my main alternative to 16. Be1' Grandelius, Nils: 'Das war meine Hauptalternative zu 16.Le1' hxg5 17.Bxg5 Rxc3! Grandelius, Nils: 'For a Sicilian player such moves comes almost automatically, but here the engine agrees that it's even the only move!' Grandelius, Nils: 'Für einen Sizilian-Spieler kommt ein solcher Zug fast automatisch, aber hier stimmt die Engine zu, dass es sogar der einzige Zug ist!' 18.bxc3 Re8 Grandelius, Nils: '!' Grandelius,Nils: '!'Grandelius, Nils: 'This is highly important, and took me sime time to spot. It's imperative to be able to meet Bh6 with either ...g6 or ...Bf8. If I avoid getting mated immediately, the counterplay will be incredibly strong.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Das ist sehr wichtig, und ich habe einige Zeit gebraucht, um es zu erkennen. Man muss unbedingt in der Lage sein, Lh6 entweder mit ...g6 oder ...Lf8 zu begegnen. Wenn ich es vermeide, sofort matt gesetzt zu werden, wird das Gegenspiel unglaublich stark sein.' 19.Qg2 *(19.Bxf6* Grandelius, Nils *Bxf6⩱)* 19...d5 Grandelius, Nils: '⇄' Grandelius,Nils: ' ⇄' 20.Kb1 *(20.Be3 Neg4 21.Bd4 Ba3+ 22.Kb1 Qa5 23.Qh3 Re4 24.Rg3 Bc5∞)* 20...Qb6+ 21.Ka1 Bc5 22.Be3 Neg4 23.Bxc5 Qxc5 24.Qg3 Kf8 25.Bd3 *(25.h3? Ne3 26.Qxg7+ Ke7 27.Bd3 Qxc3+ 28.Kb1 Nxd1 29.Rxd1 Qb4+ 30.Kc1 Rg8∓)* 25...Qxc3+ 26.Kb1 Qb4+ 27.Kc1 Qa3+ 28.Kb1 Qb4+=]

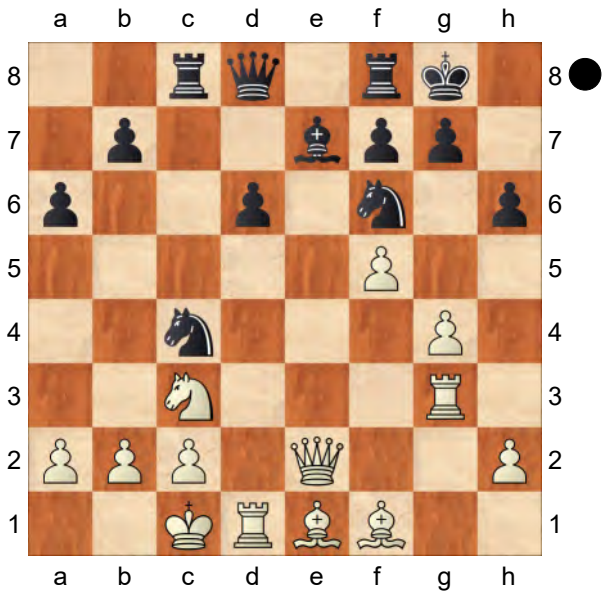
[16.Rg3 Grandelius, NilsAn odd way to play with the bishop stuck on h4, but g5 will be coming on the next move. Eine merkwürdige Spielweise mit dem auf h4 festsitzenden Läufer, aber g5 wird im nächsten Zug kommen. Nh5!? is a funny idea I briefly considered during the game ist eine lustige Idee, die ich während der Partie kurz in Betracht gezogen habe 17.Bxe7 Nxg3 18.Qxe5! Else White loses material.Andernfalls verliert Weiß Material. dxe5 19.Rxd8! Nxf1 20.Rxf8+ Rxf8 21.Bxf8 Kxf8 22.h3=]

16...Nc4 Grandelius, Nils: '!' Grandelius, Nils: '!' Grandelius, Nils: 'Already threatening the double attack Qb6.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Droht bereits mit dem Doppelangriff Db6.' **17.Rg3** Diagram Grandelius, Nils: 'Stepping out of tactical threat, but it loses an important tempo as well.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Geht aus der taktischen Drohung, aber es geht auch ein wichtiges Tempo verloren.'

[17.b3? d5! 18.Qf3 Ne5 19.Qg3 Qc7-+]

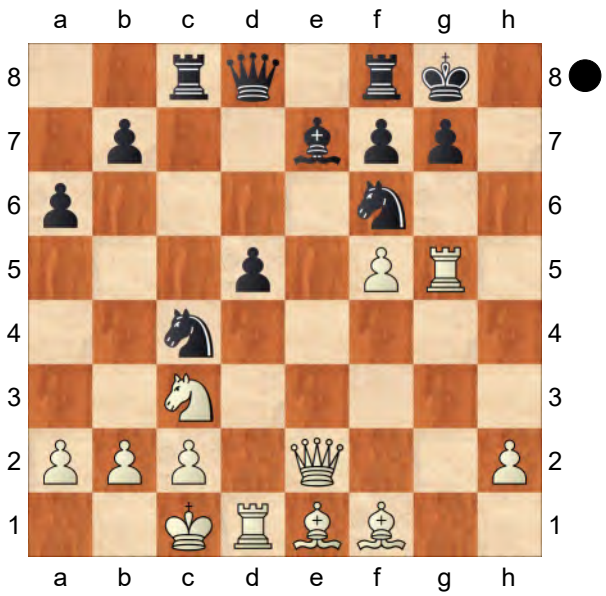
[17.Bf2 Nd7 18.Bd4 Re8 19.Kb1

Bf6 20.Qf2 Na3+! 21.bxa3 Rxc3! 22.Bxc3 Bxc3 23.Rg3 Qa5∓]
[17.h4? Grandelius, Nilstoo slow for White. zu langsam für Weiß. Qb6-+]



17...d5! Grandelius, Nils: 'Another very strong move. Now Bd6 will be another tempo on the next move.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Ein weiterer sehr starker Zug. Jetzt wird Ld6 im nächsten Zug ein weiteres Tempo bedeuten.' **18.g5** Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius,Nils: '?!'
[18.Qg2 Bd6 19.Rh3 Bf4+ 20.Kb1 Nxb2! 21.Kxb2 Qb6+ 22.Ka1 Be5 23.Rb1 Qa5 24.Rb3 Ne4-+]
[18.Qf3 Bd6 19.Rh3 Nxb2! 20.Kxb2 Qb6+ 21.Ka1 Be5 22.Qe3 Qc7-+]
[18.h4 Grandelius, Nils Bd6-+ followed by Re8, and then either Ne3 immediately or Bf4+ first. White is simply not in time to defend. gefolgt von Te8, und dann entweder sofort Se3 oder erst Lf4+. Weiß ist einfach nicht in der Zeit, sich zu verteidigen.]
18...hxg5 19.Rxg5 Diagram

(Diagram)



19...Qb6! 20.Rxg7+ Grandelius, Nils: '!?' Grandelius,Nils: '!?'Grandelius, Nils: 'A good practical try, but of course there isn't enough for the rook.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Ein guter praktischer Versuch, aber es reicht natürlich nicht für den Turm.'
[20.Na4 Grandelius, Nils: '20.b3 is very similar.'Grandelius, Nils: '20.b3 ist sehr ähnlich.' Qe3+ Grandelius, Nils: 'A surprising tactical idea that I don't think I have ever seen before. The rook is hanging on g5, and if White takes on e3, then another fork appears.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Eine überraschende taktische Idee, die ich, glaube ich, noch nie gesehen habe. Der Turm hängt auf g5, und wenn Weiß auf e3 nimmt, entsteht eine weitere Gabel.' 21.Bd2 *(21.Qxe3* Grandelius, Nils *Nxe3-+)* 21...Qxe2 22.Bxe2 Nxd2 23.Rxd2 Ne4 Grandelius, Nils: '-+' Grandelius,Nils: '-+' Grandelius, Nils: 'The final fork, winning a lot of material'Grandelius, Nils: 'Die letzte Gabel, die eine Menge Material gewinnt' 24.Rg2 Nxd2 25.Kxd2 Rfd8-+]

20...Kxg7 21.Qg2+ Kh8 22.Bxc4 Grandelius, Nils: 'Necessary as Qxb2# was a threat, but now my rook can join the defences.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Notwendig, da Dxb2# eine Drohung war, aber jetzt kann mein Turm die Verteidigung verstärken.'

[22.Qh3+ Nh7 23.Bxc4 Rxc4 24.Nxd5 Bg5+ 25.Kb1 Rd8-+]

22...Rxc4 23.Rd3 Rg4 Grandelius, Nils: 'Making sure I always have squares for my king on the g-file.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Stellt sicher, dass ich immer Felder für meinen König auf der g-Linie habe.' **24.Bg3** Grandelius, Nils: 'A sign of desperation for White. Now Black is just a rook up, and the game should finish within very few moves. Instead, I relaxed a bit too early, and immediately allowed an unnecessary tactic.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Ein Zeichen der Verzweiflung für Weiß. Jetzt ist Schwarz einfach einen Turm im Vorteil, und die Partie sollte innerhalb weniger Züge beendet sein. Stattdessen habe ich etwas zu früh entspannt und sofort eine unnötige Taktik zugelassen.'

[24.Qh3+ Grandelius, Nils Kg7 25.Nxd5 Qg1! Is a key move, both defending the rook and threatening Qxe1. ist ein Schlüsselzug, der sowohl den Turm verteidigt als auch mit Dxe1 droht.]

24...d4 Grandelius, Nils: '??' Grandelius, Nils: '??'

[24...Rd8 25.Kb1 d4-+]

[24...Rg7-+ Grandelius, Nils Something like this, or any other move, just leaves me a rook up.So etwas wie dieser oder ein anderer Zug belässt mich einfach mit einem Turm mehr.]

25.Nd5 Grandelius, Nils: '!' Grandelius, Nils: '!' Grandelius, Nils: 'For some reason I had completely overlooked this resource.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Aus irgendeinem Grund hatte ich diese Ressource völlig übersehen.' **25...Qd8** Grandelius, Nils: '!' Grandelius,Nils: '!' Grandelius, Nils: 'Despite the blunder it turns out my position is still winning. Very lucky!'Grandelius, Nils: 'Trotz des Fehlers zeigt sich, dass meine Position immer noch gewonnen ist.. Sehr viel Glück!'

[25...Nxd5 Grandelius, Nils 26.Qh3+ Rh4 looks like a fancy way to win, but it doesn't work.sieht nach einer schicken Methode aus, um zu gewinnen, aber sie funktioniert nicht. 27.Bxh4 Nf4 If White had to move the queen now, it would be an easy win for Black, butWenn Weiß jetzt die Dame ziehen müsste, wäre es ein leichter Sieg für Schwarz, aber 28.Bf6+! Kg8 29.Qh8#]

26.Qh3+

[26.Nxf6 Grandelius, Nils Bxf6 27.Qh3+ Rh4! 28.Bxh4 Bxh4 A key line where White has no way to put pressure on the h4-bishop. Eine wichtige Variante, in der Weiß keine Möglichkeit hat, den h4-Läufer unter Druck zu setzen.]

26...Nh7 27.Qxg4

[27.Nxe7 Grandelius, Nils Rxg3 28.Rxg3 Qxe7-+]

[27.f6 Grandelius, Nils Qxd5! 28.fxe7 Qg5+ followed by just moving the f8-rook. gefolgt von einem einfachen Zug des f8-Turms.]

27...Qxd5 28.Qxd4+ Grandelius, Nils: '!?' Grandelius,Nils: '!?'Grandelius, Nils: 'A good practical decision. The attack clearly no longer exists, so White hopes to get some saving chances in the

ending.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Eine gute praktische Entscheidung. Der Angriff ist eindeutig nicht mehr vorhanden, so dass Weiß hofft, im Endspiel einige Rettungschancen zu bekommen.' **28...Qxd4 29.Rxd4 Rd8** Grandelius, Nils: 'Eliminating all counterplay.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Eliminierung jeglichen Gegenspiels.'

[29...Kg7 30.Rd7 Bg5+ 31.Kd1 Rd8-+]

30.Rxd8+ Bxd8 31.Kd2 Kg7 32.Ke3 Bb6+ Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius, Nils: 'The first hesitant step. In time trouble I did not grasp the cleanest idea.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Der erste zögerliche Schritt. In Zeitnot habe ich die sauberste Idee nicht erfasst.'

[32...Kh6! Grandelius, Nils was more or less immediately winning. Once the king reaches h5 or g5, it will also reach g4, when the f5-pawn won't survive for long.war mehr oder weniger sofort gewonnen. Sobald der König h5 oder g5 erreicht, wird er auch g4 erreichen, wo der f5-Bauer nicht lange überleben wird.]

33.Ke4 Nf6+-+ 34.Kf3 Nd7

[34...Kh6! Grandelius, Nils still the right way!immer noch der richtige Weg!]

35.Ke4 Nf6+ 36.Kf3 Kf8 Grandelius, Nils: '?!' Grandelius,Nils: '?!'Grandelius, Nils: 'A step in the wrong direction. Basically I was waiting for move 40, but White can improve in the meantime.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Ein Schritt in die falsche Richtung. Im Grunde genommen habe ich auf den 40. Zug gewartet, aber Weiß kann sich in der Zwischenzeit verbessern.' **37.Be5**

[37.Bd6+ Grandelius, Nils Ke8 38.c4! The best try, trying to get some counterplay on the queenside as well. Black is still winning, but with the king on h5 it would be much smoother. Der beste Versuch, auch am Damenflügel etwas Gegenspiel zu bekommen. Schwarz gewinnt immer noch, aber mit dem König auf h5 wäre es viel glatter.]

37...Ke7 38.h4 Grandelius, Nils: 'A debatable decision. The pawn turned out to be a big weakness in the game, but without any counterplay White would also have lost in the long run.' Grandelius, Nils: 'Eine fragwürdige Entscheidung. Der Bauer erwies sich als große Schwäche in der Partie, aber ohne Gegenspiel hätte Weiß auf lange Sicht auch verloren.' **38...Bc5 39.c4 Bb4 40.Bf4 Kf8** Grandelius, Nils: 'Reaching move 40 I finally hit on the corrcect plan. The king is headed towards the kingside, to attack the h- and f-pawns.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Im 40. Zug kam ich endlich auf den richtigen Plan. Der König geht zum Königsflügel, um die h- und f-Bauern anzugreifen.' **41.Be5 Be7 42.b3 Nd7 43.Bg3 Kg7** Grandelius, Nils: 'Now it's over, as my king finally enters the game.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Jetzt ist es vorbei, denn mein König kommt endlich ins Spiel.' **44.Kg4 Kf6 45.Bc7 Bb4 46.Kf4**

[46.Bd8+ Grandelius, Nils Ke5 The h-pawn is never dangerous, for instance Der h-Bauer ist nie gefährlich, zum Beispiel 47.h5 Bd2 and it won't get any furtherund weiter kommt er nicht. 48.Bg5 Nf6+!]

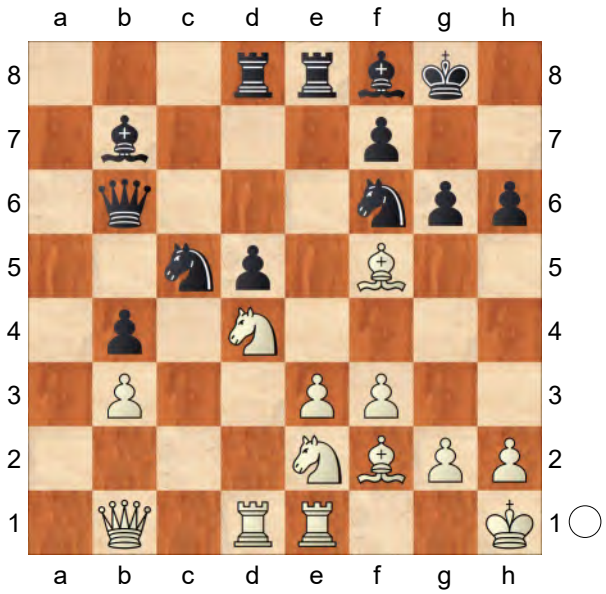
46...Be1 47.Bd8+ Kg7 48.Kg4 Ne5+ 49.Kh5

[49.Kf4 Grandelius, Nils Nc6 wins the h-pawn.gewinnt den h-

Bauern.]
49...Nd3 Grandelius, Nils: 'Finally starting to hunt down the queenside pawns. It's over.'Grandelius, Nils: 'Endlich beginnt die Jagd auf die Bauern am Damenflügel. Das war's.' **50.Bg5 f6 51.Be3 Nb4 52.a3 Nc6**
[52...Nc2 53.Bc5 Na1 54.b4 b5 55.cxb5 axb5]
53.b4 Ne5 54.c5 Bc3 55.Bh6+ Kf7 56.Bf4 Nd3 57.Bd6 Bb2
0-1

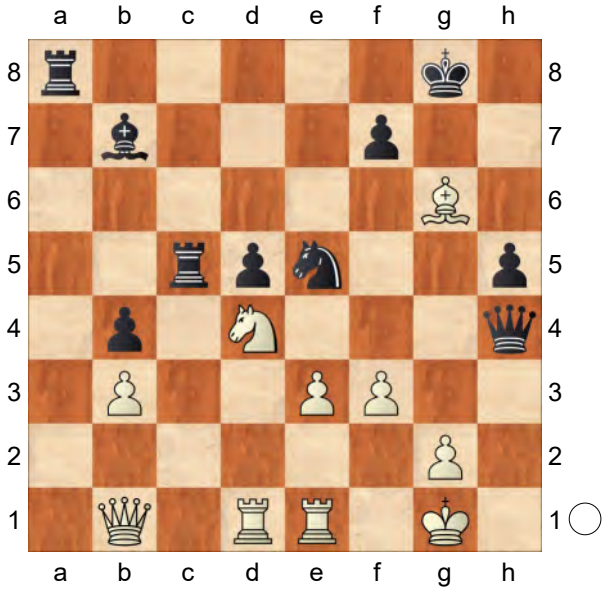
D36
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Sadhwani,Raunak** **2627**
Chessable Masters Div 2 Win rapid (1.2)
[Kitty Kat]

D36: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation: Main line (5 Bg5 c6 6 Qc2)
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 c6 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 Be7 8.Bd3 0-0 9.Qc2 Re8 10.Nge2 Nbd7 11.f3 b5 12.0-0 Bb7 13.Rad1 a6
The position is equal.
[13...Rc8 14.Bf5 b4 15.Na4 Nh5 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.e4 dxe4 18.fxe4 Rcd8 19.Bxd7 Rxd7 20.Nc5 Rdd8 21.Qb3 Bc8 22.Qxb4 Bg4 23.Rd2 Nf6 24.Ng3 Nd7 25.Rdf2 Rf8 26.Nd3 Qg5 27.Qc3 Rc8 28.b4 6. ♘ a3 cd4 7.cd4 ♗d7 (2701)-Moiseenko,A (2662) Daring Defences 2011 (5) 1-0]
14.Kh1 c5 15.dxc5N
[15.a3 Qb6 16.Bf5 Nf8 17.Qd2 c4 18.Bf2 Bc8 19.Bb1 b4 20.axb4 Qxb4 21.Bg3 Bd6 22.Bxd6 Qxd6 23.e4 dxe4 24.fxe4 Qd8 25.e5 Nd5 26.Nxd5 Qxd5 27.Nc3 Qe6 28.Ne4 Ng6 29.Nd6 Rf8 10...c5 11.d4 cd4 12cd4 ♗b7 (2098)-Kvamme,J (1994) FSGM November 2019 (2) 1-0]
15...Nxc5 16.Bf5 next e3-e4 is good for White. **16...Qb6 17.Nd4 b4 18.Nce2 a5 19.Rfe1 a4 20.Qb1** -0.76/19
[20.b3= -0.24/18 keeps the balance.]
20...Rad8 -0.26/19
[20...Ba6∓ -0.76/19]
21.Bf2 Bf8 22.b3 axb3 23.axb3 g6 1.05/21
[23...Ra8= -0.01/20]



24.Bc2 -0.01/22
[Only move: 24.Bxg6!± 1.05/21 Bg6-f5 would now be deadly. Nfe4 *(24...fxg6 25.Qxg6+ Bg7 26.Nf5+-)* 25.Bxf7+ *(25.fxe4 fxg6 26.exd5 Ne4∓)* 25...Kxf7 26.fxe4 Nxe4 27.Bh4]
24...Bg7 25.Nf4 Nfd7
[25...Ra8 is interesting. 26.Bxg6 fxg6 27.Qxg6 Nfd7]
26.h4 h5 27.Nh3 -0.61/20
[White should try 27.Bd3= -0.09/20]
27...Ne6∓ 28.Nxe6 Qxe6 -0.28/22
[28...Rxe6∓ -0.64/22 29.e4 d4]
29.Nf4 Qe5 30.Bg3 Nf6 31.Kh2

Hoping for Nf4xd5! **31...Qe7! 32.Bd3 Rc8 33.Qa2** -0.47/20
[33.Re2= -0.08/19]
33...Rc3 34.Ne2 Ra8 35.Qb1 Rc5 36.Nd4 Nd7 37.Kh1 -1.09/20
[37.Kg1∓ -0.63/20 feels stronger.]
37...Bf6 -0.20/22
[37...Ne5∓ -1.09/20 White must now prevent ...Bg7-f6. 38.Qb2 Nxd3 39.Rxd3 Be5]
38.Kg1 -0.98/19
[38.Bxg6!= -0.20/22 fxg6 39.Qxg6+ Qg7 40.Qxg7+ Kxg7 *(40...Bxg7 41.Bd6∓)* 41.e4 *(41.Ne6+ Kf7∓)*]
38...Bxh4? 1.10/22
[38...Nf8∓ -0.98/19 39.Rc1 Rc3 *(39...Bxh4?* too greedy. *40.Bxh4 Qd6 41.Rxc5+-)*]
39.Bxh4± Qxh4 40.Bxg6! Ne5 6.75/21
[40...Nf8± 0.88/19 41.Nf5 Deflection Qf6 42.Bxh5 d4]



This costs Black the game. **41.Bxf7+!+-** Remove Defender, Deflection, Clearance. White is clearly winning. **41...Kh8**
[41...Kxf7 42.Qh7+]
42.Qf5 Nxf7 43.Qxf7 Rg8 44.Qxb7 Ra5 45.Re2
[45.Qxb4? is the wrong capture. Ra2-+]
45...Qg3 46.Qb6
Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.46
1-0

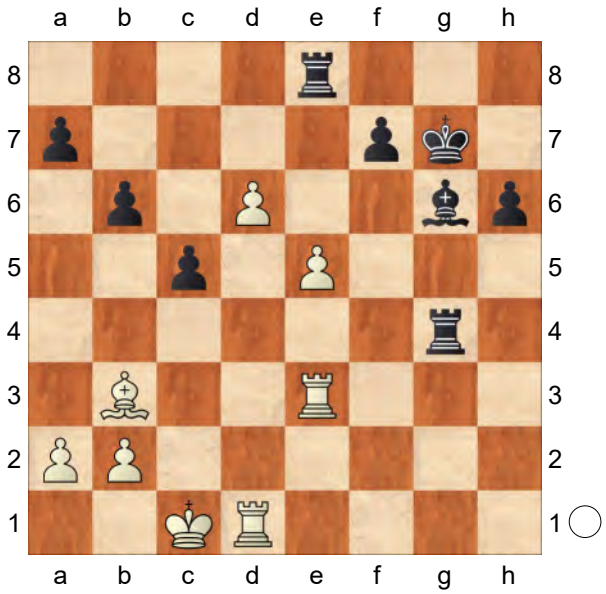
A28
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Sadhwani,Raunak** **2627**
Chessable Masters Div 2 Win rapid (1.2)
[Kitty Kat]

A28: English Opening: Four Knights Variation
1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.d4N
[4.d3 d6 5.g3 g6 6.Bg2 Bg7 7.Rb1 a5 8.a3 Nd4 9.Nd2 0-0 10.0-0 c6 11.b4 axb4 12.axb4 Bg4 13.h3 Bd7 14.Kh2 Nh5 15.c5 d5 16.e3 Ne6 17.Na4 f5 18.Nb6 Rb8 Chapter-Games Chapter 3 Game 6]
[4.g3 g6 *(4...Bb4 5.Nd5 e4 6.Nxb4 Nxb4 7.Nd4 0-0 8.Bg2 Re8 9.Qb3 c5 10.Nb5 d5 11.a3 Nd3+ 12.exd3 exd3+ 13.Kd1 dxc4 14.Qxc4 Bg4+ 15.f3 Ne4 16.Rf1 Be6 17.Qa4 Nf2+ 18.Rxf2 Qa5* 7.♖e1 58989 (2310)-Godzwon,I (2385) 27: Masters Hastings 2009 0-1*)* 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.0-0 0-0 7.d3 d6 8.Rb1 a5 9.a3 h6 10.b4 axb4 11.axb4 Be6 12.b5 Ne7 13.Qb3 c6 14.Ba3 Re8 15.Rfc1 g5 16.e3 Bf5 17.Ne1 Be6 18.Nc2 d5 10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2 (2709)-Campos (2594) Copenhagen 1991 1-0]
[4.a3 g6 5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 d6 8.d3 h6 9.b4 a6 10.Rb1 Be6 11.Nd2 Qd7 12.Nd5 Ne8 13.a4 Bh3 14.b5 axb5 15.axb5 Bxg2 16.Kxg2 Nd8 17.Bb2 Ne6 18.Ra1 Rxa1 Beim,V-Huzman,A USSR 41/(466)

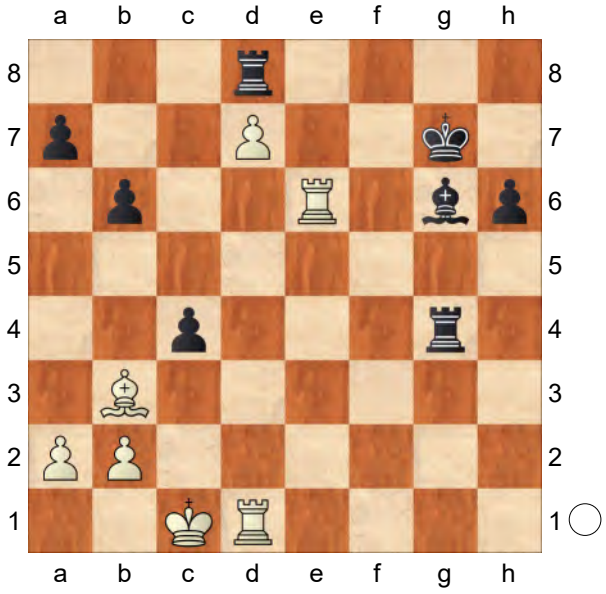
1986]
4...exd4 5.Nxd4 Nxd4 6.Qxd4 b6 7.Nd5 0.17/21
[7.Bf4± 0.58/19]
7...Nxd5= 8.cxd5 And now d5-d6! would win. **8...Bb7** The position is equal. **9.Bf4 c5 10.Qd2 Qf6 11.0-0-0 Bd6 12.Qe3+ Kf8 13.Bxd6+ Qxd6 14.g3 Re8 15.Qd2 Qe5 16.e3 h5 17.Bh3** -0.33/22
[17.h4= 0.22/20]
17...h4∓ 18.Rhg1 -0.60/21
[18.Bg2= -0.15/19]
18...Rh6 19.Bg2 hxg3 20.hxg3 Rh2 21.e4 Qf6 22.Qe3 d6 23.f4 Bc8 24.Rde1 Bh3 25.e5 dxe5 0.40/23
[25...Qh6= -0.01/22 26.Bxh3 Qxh3]
26.fxe5 -0.22/22
[26.Bxh3± 0.40/23 Rxh3 27.fxe5]
26...Qh6? 1.47/21
[26...Qf5= -0.22/22 27.g4 *(27.Rgf1? Qh7-+)* 27...Qxg4 *(27...Bxg4 28.e6=)*]
27.Qxh6± gxh6 28.Bf3 0.36/21
[28.Bxh3± 1.48/23 Rxh3 29.Rgf1]
28...Rf2 0.90/24
[Better is 28...Bf5± 0.36/21]
29.Re3! Bf5 30.Bd1 Wards off Rf2-c2+
30...Kg7 1.25/20
[Black should try 30...Rd8 0.81/19]
31.g4 Bg6 32.d6 0.80/21
[⌓32.Be2! 1.26/20]
32...Rf4 33.Bb3 0.01/21
[White should play 33.Be2± 1.11/21]
33...Rd4 1.06/22
[33...Rd8= 0.01/21 remains equal.]
34.Rd1 Threatens to win with Rd1xd4.
34...Rxg4 1.80/23
[34...Rf4± 0.79/21]

(Diagram)

35.e6!+- fxe6 36.d7? -0.01/21



[36.Bxe6 Rg2 37.Rc3 Rf2∓ *(37...Rxe6 38.d7=)*]
[36.Rxe6+- 1.62/22 Rd8 *(36...Rxe6? 37.Bxe6 Rg2 38.Bb3+-)* 37.Re7+ Kf6 38.Rf1+ Kg5 39.Re5+ *(39.Rxa7 Rxd6 40.Rg7 h5-+)* 39...Kh4 40.Be6 Rxd6 41.Rh1+ Skewer Kg3 42.Bxg4 Kxg4 43.Rxh6]
36...Rd8= 37.Rxe6 c4? 1.78/24
[37...h5!= -0.01/22]



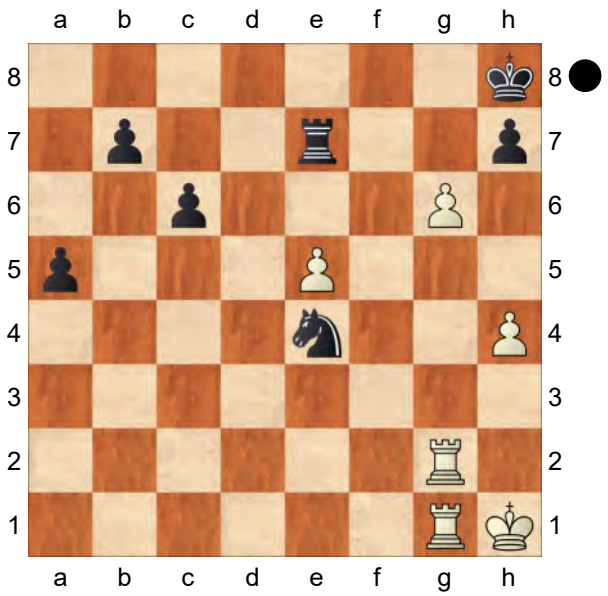
Black cannot hold the game after this.
38.Ba4!+- Rf4? 6.66/23

[38...c3 1.76/21]
39.Rg1 White is clearly winning. **39...Rf6 40.Re8 Rf8 41.Rxf8 Rxf8 42.Bc2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.55
1-0

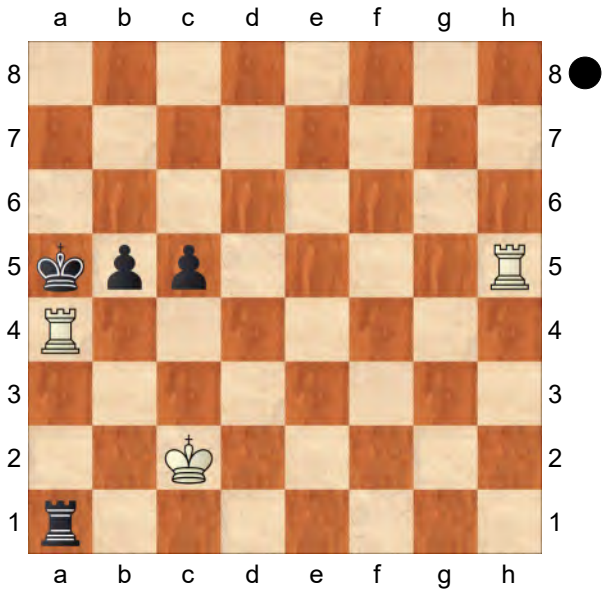
C50
□ **Sadhwani,Raunak** **2627**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
Chessable Masters Div 2 Win rapid (1.3)
[Kitty Kat]

C50: Hungarian Defence and Giuoco Pianissimo
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nc3 a6 6.0-0 d6 7.a4
[7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.Bxd5 Ne7 9.Bb3 h6 10.d4 exd4 11.Nxd4 0-0 12.Be3 Ng6 13.Qh5 Qf6 14.Rad1 Ne5 15.h3 Qg6 16.Qxg6 Nxg6 17.Rfe1 Re8 18.Bc1 b5 19.Bd5 Rb8 20.Nc6 Rb7 21.b4 Bb6 Humer,W (2118)-Maier,T (1962) AUT-ch Linz 2024 (9) 0-1]
7...Be6N
[7...0-0 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 Nd4 10.Nxd4 Bxd4 Italian Setups Without-5.Nc3 a6 6.O-O #1]
[7...h6 8.Be3 0-0 9.Bxc5 dxc5 10.h3 Qd6 11.Nd2 b6 12.Nd5 Rb8 13.Nxf6+ Qxf6 14.Qf3 Qxf3 15.Nxf3 Re8 16.c3 Na5 17.Bd5 Be6 18.Bxe6 Rxe6 19.b4 cxb4 20.cxb4 Nc6 21.b5 Nb4 22.Rfc1 4.c3 ♘f6 5. e5/6...f5 (2702)-Sybil (2710) 2009 (1. 3) 1-0]
8.Bxe6 White has an edge. **8...fxe6 9.Ne2 0-0 10.Ng3 Qe8 11.c3 a5 12.Qb3 Bb6 13.Be3 Nd7 14.Bxb6 Nxb6 15.d4 Rxf3** 0.60/20 **16.gxf3± exd4 17.f4 Kh8 18.Kh1 Qe7** 1.01/19
[18...dxc3± 0.53/18 feels stronger. 19.Qxc3 Qf7]
19.Rae1 0.54/19
[19.f3± 1.01/19]
19...Rf8 0.93/21
[19...dxc3± 0.54/19 20.bxc3 Nb8]
20.f5± e5 21.Rg1 Qf7 22.Qc2 dxc3 23.bxc3 Nb8 24.Rg2 N8d7 25.Reg1 Rg8 26.Nf1 0.33/20
[26.c4± 0.86/19]
26...Qc4 1.05/24
[26...Nc5± 0.33/20]
27.Ne3 Qxa4 28.Qxa4 Nxa4 29.Nd5 g6 1.56/22 **30.h4** 0.93/22
[30.Nxc7 Nxc3 31.f3 *(31.fxg6 Rxg6 32.Ne8 b5=)* 31...b5±]
[⌓30.c4 1.56/22]
30...c6 31.Ne7 0.69/23
[Better is 31.fxg6!± 1.24/24 White threatens g6-g7+ and mate. Rxg6 32.Ne7 *(32.Rxg6 hxg6 33.Ne7 Nxc3=)* 32...Rxg2 33.Rxg2]
31...Rg7 1.49/21
[31...Re8± 0.69/23 32.Nxg6+ Demolition hxg6 33.Rxg6 Re7]
32.Nc8 Nf6? 2.34/23
[32...Nxc3± 0.75/21 was worth a try. 33.Nxd6 Ne2]
33.Nxd6+- Nxc3 34.f4 1.23/25
[34.fxg6+- 2.78/23 is the precise move to win. White wants to mate with Nd6-f7+. hxg6 35.Nf5 *(35.Rxg6 Rxg6 36.Rxg6 Ncxe4±)*]
34...Ncxe4± 35.Nxe4 1.14/20
[35.fxe5+- 1.85/22 Nxd6 36.exf6 *(36.exd6 Ne4±)*]
35...Nxe4 36.fxe5 Endgame. KRR-KRN
[36.fxg6 exf4 37.Ra2 hxg6 *(37...Rxg6 38.Rxg6 hxg6 39.Rxa5=)* 38.Rxa5 Re7=]
36...Re7 37.fxg6

(Diagram)



Threatens to win with g6-g7+. **37...Rxe5 38.g7+ Kg8 39.Rf1** White has strong compensation. **39...Re8** Repels Rf1-f8+ **40.h5** 0.47/22 White is more active.
[White should play 40.Rg4± 1.04/23 Nd6 41.Rf6]
40...h6!± 41.Rg6 0.14/22
[41.Rd1± 0.53/20]
41...a4= 42.Rfg1
[42.Rxh6 Re5 *(42...Ng3+ 43.Kg2=)* 43.Rg1 Ng5±]
42...Re7 43.Kh2 Ng5 44.Rf1 Dodges Ng5-f3+
[44.Rxh6? too greedy. Nf3+ *(44...Rxg7 45.Rf6=)* 45.Kh1 Nxg1 46.Rh8+ Kxg7-+]
44...Rxg7 45.Rxh6 a3 46.Rhf6 Strongly threatening h5-h6. **46...Ne4 47.Rf8+ Kh7 48.Ra1** 0.01/22
[48.Ra8± 0.39/22 should be considered.]
48...Rg5 49.Rxa3 Rxh5+ 50.Kg2 Kg6 51.Rb8 Rb5 52.Kf3 Nf6 53.Re3 Kf7 54.Ke2 Nd5 55.Ree8 Nf4+ 56.Kd2 Ne6 Prevents Re8-f8+. **57.Rh8 Ng5 58.Rbg8 Kf6 59.Rh6+ Ke7 60.Rg7+ Nf7 61.Rhh7 Rf5 62.Kd3 b5 63.Ke4 Rf6 64.Rg8 Kd6 65.Ke3 Kc5 66.Rf8 Re6+ 67.Kd2 Nd6! 68.Rh5+ Kb4 69.Rf4+ Nc4+ 70.Kc2 c5** -0.01/29
[70...Re3∓ -0.84/24]
71.Rh3! Re2+ 72.Kd1 Rg2 73.Kc1! Rg1+ 74.Kc2 Rg2+
[74...Ka4 simplifies 75.Rxc4+ bxc4 76.Rh8 Kb4]
75.Kc1! Ra2 76.Kb1 Rd2 77.Kc1 aiming for Rf4xc4+! **77...Rd5 78.Rg3 Re5 79.Rh3** -0.64/26
[79.Kc2= -0.01/28]
79...Re8 -0.01/28
[Black should try 79...Ka5!∓ -0.64/26]
80.Rg3 Re1+ -0.73/5
[80...Rh8= -0.01/27]
81.Kc2∓ Re2+ 82.Kc1 Ra2 83.Rh3 Ra4 84.Kc2 Ka5 85.Kc1 -0.41/28
[85.Rf5= -0.01/27]
85...Ra1+∓ 86.Kc2 Nb6 -0.01/28
[86...Ra2+!∓ -0.37/26 87.Kb1 Re2]
87.Rh5= The position is equal. **87...Na4 88.Rxa4+!**



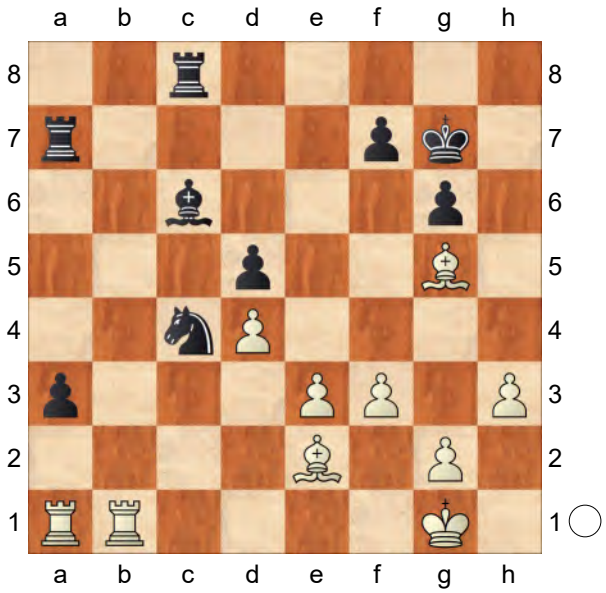
Remove Defender **88...Kxa4 89.Rxc5** KR-KR **89...Ra2+ 90.Kb1 Rh2** ...b5-b4 is the strong threat. **91.Rc3 b4 92.Rg3 Rh1+ 93.Kb2 Rh2+ 94.Kb1 Rh1+ 95.Kb2 Rh2+ 96.Kb1** Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.16 (very precise)
½-½

D14

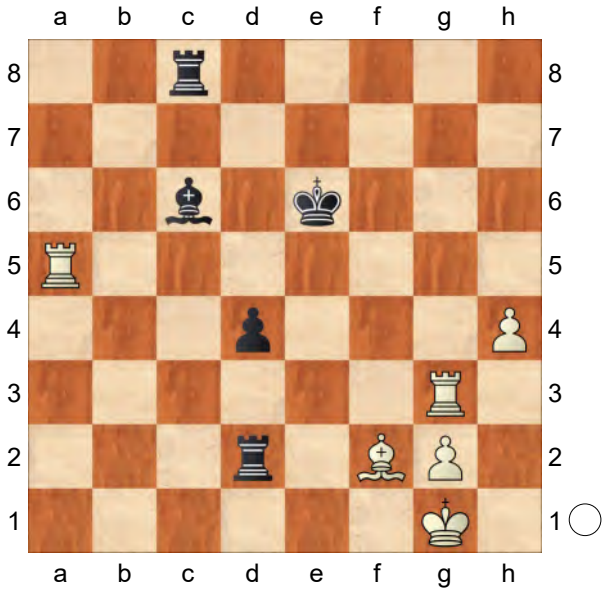
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** 2728
■ **Tabatabaei,Mohammad Amin** 2657
EU-Cup 37th Mayrhofen (3.1) 05.10.2022
[Kitty Kat]

D14: Slav Defence: Exchange variation with ...Bf5
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bf4 Bf5 7.Qb3 Na5 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qc2 e6 10.e3 Rc8 11.Bd3 Against Nf6-e4 **11...Bb4** wohl besser als 11...Be7. White has an edge. **12.0-0 h6**
[12...Nh5 13.Be5 f6 14.Bxh7 Ke7 15.Bg3 Nc4 16.Bd3 Nxg3 17.fxg3 Qa5 18.Bxc4 dxc4 19.e4 Kd8 20.a3 Bxc3 21.bxc3 Kc7 22.Qb2 Kb8 23.Qb4 Qc7 24.Rab1 Rh5 25.Qe7 Ba4 26.Qxe6 Bc2 27.Rb2 Vulcano,M (2189)-3. ♘d2 ♘f6 4.e5 ♘fd7/ 7. (2221) 65/353 Groningen 1995 (7.11) 1-0]
13.h3N
[13.Rac1 0-0 14.Qe2 a6 15.a3 Bxc3 16.bxc3 Nc4 17.Bxc4 Rxc4 18.Qb2 Bb5 19.Ra1 Qa5 20.Bd6 Rfc8 21.Bb4 Qc7 22.Rfc1 a5 23.Bc5 b6 24.Qxb5 bxc5 25.Ne5 Rb8 26.Qc6 cxd4 27.Qxc7 Rxc7 Zhu,P (1969)-Twisk,S (1802) BCF-ch Major 2024 (8) ½-½]
13...0-0 14.Rfc1 a6 15.Qe2 Bxc3N
[Vorgänger: 15...Qe7 16.Ne5 Nc6 17.a3 Nxe5 18.Bxe5 Bxc3 19.bxc3 Ba4 20.c4 dxc4 21.Bxc4 Nd7 ½-½ (31) Williamson,H (2511)-Koshmak,I (2462) ICCF email 2020]
16.bxc3 Nc4 17.a4 b5 18.Ne5 Nxe5 19.Bxe5 bxa4 20.Bxa6 A strong pair of Bishops. **20...Ra8 21.Bd3 Qe7 22.Rcb1 Ra7** Against Rb1-b7 **23.Bc2 Rc8 24.Qd3! g6 25.f3** Repels Nf6-e4. White is more active. **25...a3 26.Qd2 Ba4 27.Bd3 Nd7 28.Bf4 e5 29.Bxh6 Bc6 30.dxe5**
[30.f4 feels hotter. Qh4 31.Bg5 Qg3 32.Qf2]
30...Nxe5 31.Be2 Qc5 1.47/21 Prevents Rb1-b6
[31...f6!± 0.40/20]
32.Bg5 0.93/21
[⌓32.Qd4 1.47/21 Qxd4 33.exd4 *(33.cxd4 Nc4±)*]
32...Kg7 33.Qd4 Qxd4 34.cxd4 0.75/24
[White should play 34.exd4 1.19/25 Nc4 35.Ra2]
34...Nc4



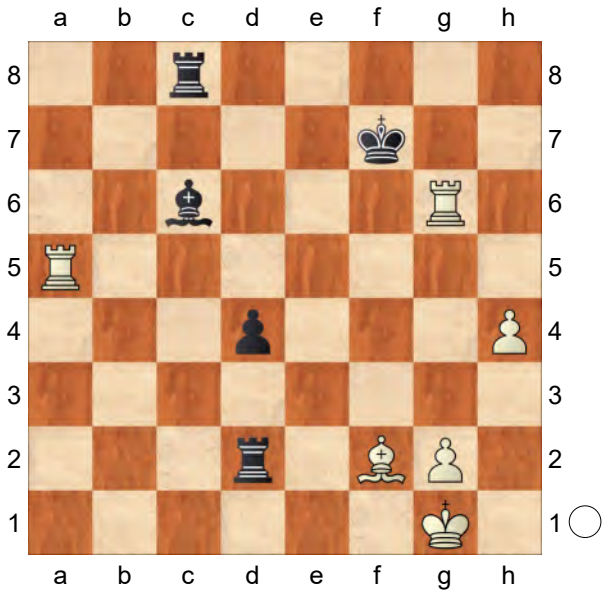
35.e4 0.46/23 **f6 36.Bc1 Ra4 37.Bxc4 Rxc4 38.e5!**
[38.Bxa3 dxe4 39.d5 Bxd5=]
38...Rxd4 39.Rxa3
[39.Bxa3 fxe5 40.Bb2 Ra4]
39...fxe5 40.Bb2 Ra4 41.Bxe5+ Kf7 42.Rd3 Ra2 1.42/22

[⌓42...Re8 0.76/20 43.Re1 Re7]
43.Rb6 Rd3-c3 is the strong threat.
43...Ke6 44.f4 0.32/23
[44.Bb2± 1.41/23]
44...g5 0.96/25 **45.Rc3± gxf4 46.Bxf4**
[46.Rcxc6+ Rxc6 *(46...Kxe5? is the wrong capture. 47.Rxc8 f3 48.Re8+ Kd4 49.gxf3+-)* 47.Rxc6+ Kxe5=]
46...Kd7 47.Rg3! Rg3-g6 would now be deadly. **47...Re2** 1.35/21
[Better is 47...Ke6 0.74/21]
48.Ra6 aiming for Rg3-g6. **48...Ke6 49.Rc3** 0.38/22
[White should try 49.Be3± 1.08/21]
49...Kd7!± 50.Rg3! Hoping for Rg3-g6.
50...Ke6 51.Be3 Ke5 52.h4 d4 53.Bf2 0.00/21
[53.Ra5+± 1.16/19 Ke4 54.Bh6]
53...Rd2 0.87/19
[53...Kf4!= 0.00/21 remains equal.]
54.Ra5+ Ke6? 4.97/17
[54...Kf6± 0.68/19]



Loses the game. **55.Rg6+!+- Kf7**

(Diagram)



56.h5 And now Ra5-a7+ would win.
56...Be4 57.Ra7+ Kf8 58.Rf6+ Kg8 59.h6 d3 60.Rf4 Rxf2 61.Rxf2 Endgame. KRR-KRB **61...Rd8 62.Rd2 Rd6 63.Re7 Bh7 64.Kf2 Rxh6 65.Rb2 Rf6+ 66.Ke3** White threatens Rb2-b8+ and mate. **66...Kh8 67.g4 Rh6** Prevents Rb2-h2. **68.Re8+ Bg8 69.Kxd3 Rg6 70.Rb4 Kg7 71.Ke3 Kh6 72.Kf4 Bh7 73.Rb7** g4-g5+! would kill now. **73...Ra6 74.Rh8 Ra4+ 75.Kg3 Rxg4+ 76.Kxg4**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.29 (precise)
1-0

B47
□ **Kovalev,Vladislav** **2612**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
Sharjah Masters 6th (8) 24.05.2023
[Erigaisi, Arjun]

1.e4 Erigaisi,Arjun **1...c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7** The game opens with the sharp Sicilian Taimanov Die Partie beginnt mit dem scharfen Taimanov-Sizilianer **6.g3**

White opts for the 'usually solid' fianchetto variationWeiß entscheidet sich für die 'gewöhnlich solide' Fianchetto-Variante **6...h5** Roiz,M: 'Arjun is trying to confuse his experienced opponent by opting for a rare and risky setup.'The ♙h5 in this very position is a rarity, but nowadays with Alphazero ♙h4/h5 should never be a surprise :)Der ♙h5 in genau dieser Position ist eine Seltenheit, aber heutzutage mit Alphazero sollte ♙h4/h5 keine Überraschung mehr sein :) **7.Ndb5** Roiz,M: 'Vladislav comes up with an an ambitious novelty. Indeed, the weak d6-spot often causes Black lots of problems, especially when he lacks development.' White chooses a dynamic and semi concrete way of playingWeiß wählt eine dynamische und halbwegs konkrete Spielweise

[The usual 7.Bg2 h4 also seems to offer White some promising continuations, such as 8.Bf4!? e5 9.Ndb5 Qb8 10.Be3 a6 11.Na3 b5 12.Nd5 White's development advantage prevails. Paleologu,V - Joksic,S Ascona 2011]

7...Qb8 8.Bf4 Roiz,M: 'The most consistent follow-up.' **8...e5** Roiz,M: 'This is practically forced. The players enter an unbalanced position a-la Sveshnikov.' **9.Be3 a6 10.Na3** Play is very much in the spirit of Sveshnikov. White made sure the d5 square is available for his ♘ but Black has his own activityDas Spiel ist ganz im Geiste von Sweschnikow. Weiß stellt sicher, dass das Feld d5 für seinen ♘ verfügbar ist, aber Schwarz hat seine eigene Aktivität **10...b5** Roiz,M: 'White's knight is temporarily stuck on a3, as in a classical Sveshnikov. On the other hand, Black has poor development for now. Still, this position was most likely analyzed by Arjun in detail before the game.' **11.Nd5 Nf6 12.Nxf6+** Roiz,M: 'The most challenging move - Black's pawn chain is damaged, so the king is in potential danger.'

[In the event of 12.Nb6 Black can opt for an interesting exchange sacrifice with Nxe4!? 13.Nxa8 Qxa8 14.Bg2 Nf6⇄ The strong pawn centre and poor Na3 make the play very double-edged.]

12...gxf6 13.h4 Roiz,M: 'Fixing the weak Ph5 is a deep positional idea, but it uses an important tempo.'My preparation ended with this logical move which aims to target Black's h5 ♙ in the long run Meine Vorbereitung endete mit diesem logischen Zug, der darauf abzielt, auf lange Sicht Schwarz' h5 ♙ aufs Korn zu nehmen.

[In my opinion, something like 13.Nb1!? f5 14.Nc3 looked more promising for White, although the consequences are not so clear: Bb4 15.Bg5 Qb6 16.Bg2 Bb7 17.0-0 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Ne7! Black keeps his counter-chances.]

13...f5! Roiz,M: 'GM Erigaisi plays very much in Sveshnikov style! Of course, this break diminishes White's control of d5.' I knew some concepts related to this move Ich kannte einige Konzepte im Zusammenhang mit diesem Zug

[An alternative plan was: 13...Bb4+ 14.c3 Bxa3 15.bxa3 Na5 16.a4 Qc7⇄ Black has sufficient counterplay against White's weak q-side pawns.]

14.exf5 Bb7 Black just sacrificed a pawn to get a strong hold of the h1-a8 diagonal Schwarz hat gerade einen Bauern geopfert, um die Diagonale

h1-a8 fest im Griff zu haben **15.Rg1** Roiz,M: 'This awkward move isn't as bad as it looks.'

[Roiz,M: 'Still, more natural was' 15.Bg2 Nd4! *(15...Ne7* slightly safer etwas sicherer *16.0-0 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 Qb7+ 18.Kh2 Nxf5)*

A) 16.Bxd4?! Bxg2 17.Rg1 Bh3 18.Qe2 d6 *(18...f6 19.0-0-0 Qc7)* 19.0-0-0 *(19.Qe4 Qc8 20.Bxe5?? Bxf5-+)* 19...Bxf5 Black is better due to the bishop pair in an open position + White's poorly placed ♘ on a3, though in such a position one always needs to be careful Schwarz steht besser wegen des Läuferpaars in einer offenen Stellung + Weiß' schlecht platziertem ♘ auf a3, obwohl man in einer solchen Stellung immer vorsichtig sein muss;

B) 16.0-0 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 Qb7+ 18.f3 *(18.Kh2? Nf3+ 19.Kh3 Rg8↑* with some dangerous initiativ emit einer gefährlichen Initiative*)* 18...Nxf5 Black has a nice center and beautiful pieces Schwarz hat ein feines Zentrum und schöne Figuren 19.Qd3 , and White's chances are by no means worse - after all Black's king is more exposed.]

15...d5 Black's pawn deficit is compensated by the huge pawn center + White's ♘ on a3 Das schwarze Bauerndefizit wird kompensiert durch das große Bauernzentrum + den weißen ♘ auf a3 . **16.c3?** Roiz,M: 'Such passive play wasn't allowed! Vladislav wastes an important tempo, but fails to prevent ...d5-d4.'A serious concrete error Ein schwerer konkreter Fehler

[Roiz,M: 'Correct was' 16.Bg2

A) 16...Qd6?! is an interesting move but it turns out to be an inaccuracy !ist ein interessanter Zug, der sich jedoch als Ungenauigkeit herausstellt!

A1) 17.c3 0-0-0 18.Nc2 d4⇄ is complicated ist kompliziert;

A2) 17.Bxd5 0-0-0 18.c4 *(18.Bxc6 Qxc6* initiative just wins the game for Black here Initiative gewinnt hier einfach die Partie für Schwarz *; 18.Bxf7 Qb4+ 19.Bd2 Qxb2* and the knight is lost und der Springer ist verloren*)* 18...bxc4

A2a) 19.Bxf7 Qb4+ 20.Bd2 c3! makes sure Black wins the knight stellt sicher, dass Schwarz den Springer gewinnt *(20...Qxb2 21.Nxc4* is the point, ♘ escapes ist die Pointe, ♘ entkommt *)*;

A2b) 19.Nxc4 Qb4+ *(19...Qxd5?? 20.Nb6+)* 20.Bd2 *(20.Kf1 Kb8!* getting out of the ♘b6 ideas and now the pin is fatal geht aus ♘b6 Ideen heraus, und jetzt ist die Fesselung tödlich *21.Qf3 Nd4-+)* 20...Rxd5 21.Bxb4 Rxd1+ 22.Rxd1 Bxb4+ and Black is better und Schwarz steht besser;

A3) 17.Qxd5! White has to find a series of only moves but not so tough if the final position can be evaluted well!Weiß muss eine Reihe von einzigen Zügen finden, aber das ist nicht so schwer, wenn die Endstellung gut eingeschätzt werden kann

17...Qb4+ 18.Kf1 sidestepping with the king is safest and in fact the only moveAusweichen mit dem König ist am sichersten und tatsächlich der einzige Zug *(18.Bd2?* blocks the d-file and White ends up a piece down in no time blockiert die d-Linie und Weiß hat am Ende eine Figur weniger *Qxb2-+; 18.c3 Qxb2 19.Rd1 Rd8 20.Qxc6+ Bxc6 21.Bxc6+ Ke7)* 18...Qxb2 19.Rd1 Rd8 *(19...Bxa3?? 20.Qd7+ Kf8 21.Qxb7+-)* 20.Qxc6+! time for a queen sacrifice !Zeit für ein Damenopfer! Bxc6 21.Bxc6+ Ke7

A3a) 22.Bc5+? Kf6 23.Rxd8 Bxc5 24.Rxh8 Qd4! is a key move which wins on the spot. White just can't save f2 ist ein Schlüsselzug, der auf der Stelle gewinnt. Weiß kann f2 einfach nicht decken *(24...Qxa3 25.Kg2⇄)* 25.Rg2 Qd1#;

A3b) 22.f6+! Kxf6 23.Rxd8 Kg7! The plan is to take the ♘ with the ♗ so as to save some tempi Der Plan ist, den ♘ mit dem ♗ zu nehmen, um einige Tempi zu sparen. *(23...Qxa3 24.Bd5* White's pieces are simply preferable over Black's queen, as there's no weakness in White's camp + the king is going to feel completely safe on g2 while Black's king will be under fire + f7 is a huge targetDie weißen Figuren sind der schwarzen Dame einfach vorzuziehen, da es im weißen Lager keine Schwäche gibt + sich der König auf g2 völlig sicher fühlen wird, während der schwarze König unter Beschuss steht + f7 ein großes Ziel ist *)* and in case und im Falle 24.g4 there's gibt es Qa1+! 25.Kg2 Qc3⇄ Yet, Black is the one who has to be more careful and precise than White eDennoch ist Schwarz derjenige, der vorsichtiger und präziser sein muss als Weiß.;

B) 16...d4!? is an interesting possibility which the machine likes but I absolutely didn't want to weaken the e4 squareist eine interessante Möglichkeit, die der Maschine gefällt, aber ich wollte auf keinen Fall das Feld e4 schwächen 17.Bg5 Bb4+ 18.Kf1 Qd6 19.Nb1⇄ with mutual chances.;

C) 16...Qc7!⇄ 17.Qxd5? fails too scheitert auch *(17.Bxd5?* is simply out of the question due to the fatal pinkommt einfach nicht in Frage wegen der fatalen Fesselung *0-0-0-+)* 17...Bxa3 18.bxa3 Nd4!-+]

[16.Qxd5?? gets the queen trapped führt zu Damenfang Nd4-+]

16...d4! Immediately capitalizing on White's mistake.Schlägt sofort aus dem Fehler von Weiß Kapital. **17.cxd4** Roiz,M: 'A sad necessity.'

[Roiz,M: 'After' 17.Bg5 dxc3 the b2 pawn is overloaded der b2-Bauer ist überlastet 18.bxc3 *(18.Nc2 cxb2 19.Rb1 Be7* Black should be able to convert his material advantage. *)* 18...Bxa3-+]

[17.Bd2 dxc3 18.Bxc3 b4-+ wins a piece and the game gewinnt eine Figur und die Partie]
[17.Bc1 is an awful way of keeping everything together temporarily but now Black just wins by playing it slow ist eine furchtbare Art, alles vorübergehend zusammenzuhalten, aber jetzt gewinnt Schwarz einfach, indem er langsam spielt Qc7-+ this is simply crushing with tons of ideas in the air das ist einfach erdrückend mit einer Fülle von Ideen in der Luft]

17...Bb4+ **18.Ke2** Played not out of choice, but out of desperation Nicht aus freien Stücken gespielt, sondern aus Verzweiflung

[18.Bd2 Nxd4

A) 19.Bxb5+ axb5 20.Bxb4

A1) 20...Nf3+? It's important not to go after material here. The ♘ on d4 is way better than the ♖ on g1 Es ist wichtig, hier nicht auf Material auszugehen. Der ♘ auf d4 ist viel besser als der ♖ auf g1 21.Kf1 Ra4! still keeps an advantage behält immer noch einen Vorteil *(21...Nxg1?? 22.Kxg1+-* Everything turned around. Now it is White who has activity and a safe king while it's Black's king which is under fire Alles drehte sich um. Jetzt ist es Weiß, der Aktivität und einen sicheren König hat, während Schwarz' König unter Beschuss steht *)*;

A2) 20...Bf3 21.Qd2 Qb7 massive crush! massive Vernichtung!;

B) 19.Be2 Bxa3 *(19...Bxd2+! 20.Qxd2 Bf3! 21.Bd3 Qd6-+* Black's activity is proving to be deadly Die Aktivität von Schwarz erweist sich als tödlich *)* 20.bxa3 Qc8 21.Rc1 Qxf5∓ this was my intention during the game but there's something even stronger das war meine Absicht während der Partie, aber es gibt etwas noch Stärkeres]

18...exd4 Roiz,M: 'The situation has drastically changed! Now Black's forces are much better mobilized.' **19.Bf4** Here I had to go into a long think to understand ♗d6 is actually important. Initially I didn't want to move that bishop at all as it looked like it is White's king's biggest enemy on b4 - making sure it has no squares available. So let's examine a few moves:Hier musste ich lange nachdenken, um zu verstehen, dass ♗d6 tatsächlich wichtig ist. Ursprünglich wollte ich diesen Läufer überhaupt nicht bewegen, da es so aussah, als wäre er auf b4 der größte Feind von Weiß' König - sorgt dafür, dass er keine Felder zur Verfügung hat. Also wollen wir ein paar Züge untersuchen:

[19.Bxd4 Qd6 20.Be3

A) 20...Ne5 I really wanted to make this work out of beauty but unfortunately it doesn't work Wegen der Schönheit wollte ich dies wirklich zum Funktionieren bringen, aber leider klappt es nicht.

A1) 21.Bg2! Bxg2 22.Rxg2 and the king will be very safe on f1 and it is Black who has to try and escape und der König wird auf f1 sehr sicher stehen und Schwarz ist derjenige, der versuchen muss zu entkommen *(22.Qxd6 Bf3+ 23.Kf1 Bxd6-+)*;

A2) 21.Qxd6 Bf3# What a beautiful checkmate! Was für ein schönes Schachmatt!;

B) 20...Qe7 also works, but not what I would have played funktioniert auch, aber nicht das, was ich gespielt hätte;

C) 20...Qe5 but this simple move does the job. hitting b2 and threatening ♖d8 aber dieser einfache Zug erfüllt seinen Zweck. Er attackiert b2 und droht ♖d8]

19...Bd6!

[19...Qd8 this was my first thought - threatening Qe7das war mein erster Gedanke - es droht De7 20.Bg2 but already the attack is gone and our king will soon face a dilemma of where to go. 0-0 is not an option as White's ♕ will directly hit h5 once his ♔ moves to f1, and after 0-0-0 the f4-b8 diagonal and the c6 point are weak aber schon ist der Angriff weg und unser König steht bald vor einem Dilemma, wohin er gehen soll. 0-0 ist keine Option, da Weiß mit der ♕ direkt gegen h5 zielt, sobald sein ♔ nach f1 zieht, und nach 0-0-0 sind die Diagonale f4-b8 und der Punkt c6 schwach]

[19...Qc8 and then I was looking at this, but once again, ♗ goes to g2, ♔ goes to f1 and it is Black's king which will be under some fireund dann habe ich mir das hier angesehen, aber auch hier, der ♗ geht nach g2, ♔ nach f1 und es ist der schwarze König, der unter Beschuss geraten wird 20.Bg2 *(20.Qd3* White has other interesting moves such as this, ♗h3 etc Weiß hat andere interessante Züge wie diesen, ?h3 usw.*; 20.Bh3)*]

[19...Qa7 20.Bg2 the same thing, the only difference being our queen is placed much worse on a7 now dasselbe, nur mit dem Unterschied, dass unsere Dame jetzt viel schlechter auf a7 platziert ist]

20.Bg5 When I looked at this move earlier in my calculation I just assumed ♙f6 wins for me and left it there but only when he played it I realised it's actually not all that easy and I still have to calculate some linesAls ich diesen Zug zuvor in meiner Berechnung sah, nahm ich einfach an, dass ♙f6 für mich gewinnt und beließ es dabei, aber erst als er es spielte, wurde mir klar, dass es eigentlich nicht so einfach ist und ich noch einige Varianten berechnen muss

[Roiz, M: 'After' 20.Qd2 I was expecting this movelch habe diesen Zug erwartet Bxf4! *(20...Qc7!? 21.Rc1 0-0-0 22.Kd1 d3∓* keeps less advantage objectively but more practical pressure. Also a good optionbehält objektiv weniger Vorteil aber mehr praktischen Druck. Auch eine gute Option*)* 21.Qxf4 *(21.gxf4 Qd6-+* is crushing both dynamically and positionally. Black is just 1 pawn down but White has tripled pawn,weak king etcist sowohl dynamisch als auch positionell vernichtend. Schwarz hat nur einen Bauern weniger, aber Weiß hat einen Tripelbauern, einen schwachen König usw. *)*

A) 21...d3+ slightly more precise move order but both are good etwas präzisere Zugreihenfolge, aber beides ist gut 22.Kxd3 *(22.Kd2 Qxf4+ 23.gxf4 0-0-0* Roiz,M: 'White's pieces are paralyzed by the strong Pd3.'

24.Bg2 Nd4) 22...Qd8+;

B) 21...Qxf4 22.gxf4 d3+ 23.Kd2 *(23.Kxd3 0-0-0+)* 23...Nd4 and White continues to face the initiative despite queens coming off the board und Weiß sieht sich weiterhin Initiative gegenüber, obwohl die Damen vom Brett kommen]

[20.Bxd6 Qxd6 this just helps me get out with the queen with a tempo das hilft mir nur, die Dame mit Tempo herauszubringen]

20...f6! Roiz,M: 'Very precise play!' The point is to deliver a check before White could play ♗g2 and his ♔ could slide over to f1. And this move wins that crucial tempo which means the world here Es geht darum, ein Schach zu geben, bevor Weiß ♗g2 spielen und sein ♔ nach f1 rutschen kann. Und dieser Zug gewinnt das entscheidende Tempo, das hier die Welt bedeutet **21.Bxf6 0-0** Roiz,M: '-+' Roiz,M: 'Black has a decisive attack.'Again, Black castled not to get his king safety but to vacate the e8 square for one of the major pieces and attack the bishop at the same time! Nocheinmal, Schwarz rochierte nicht, um seinen König in Sicherheit zu bringen, sondern um das Feld e8 für eine der Schwerfiguren freizumachen und gleichzeitig den Läufer anzugreifen!

22.Qd2 Roiz,M: 'Desperation.'

[22.Qb3+ Kh7 23.Bg5 I thought this was the critical variation while calculating before playing ♙f6 Beim Rechnen, bevor ich ♙f6 spielte, dachte ich, dies sei die kritische Variante

A) 23...Qe8+ 24.Kd1 Ne5 I thought this was promising but didn't look too clear to me Ich dachte, das sei vielversprechend, aber es sah für mich nicht sehr klar aus;

B) 23...Na5 24.Qd3 Qe8+ 25.Kd1 Be4 26.Qxd4 this was my initial intention but I just left it here thinking it is getting complicated. but there are a couple of ways to win here Das war meine ursprüngliche Absicht, aber ich habe es hier dabei belassen, weil ich dachte, dass es kompliziert wird. Aber es gibt einige Möglichkeiten, hier zu gewinnen Bf3+ *(26...Bxa3 27.bxa3 Nc6 28.Qd6 Rxf5! 29.Qh6+ Kg8 30.Be2 Nd4!-+)* 27.Kd2 Qd7 28.Bd3 Nc6 29.f6+ Kg8!-+ *(29...Kh8 30.f7+* It is never too late to blunder! Es ist nie zu spät, Fehler zu machen! *Nxd4 31.Bf6#)*;

C) 23...d3+ and then I finally saw this which was convincing enough to me und dann sah ich schließlich dies, was mich überzeugte 24.Kd1 *(24.Qxd3 Ne5-+* Roiz,M: 'is equally bad.') 24...Nd4 25.Qxd3 Bf3+ 26.Kc1

C1) 26...Qc7+ 27.Kb1 *(27.Nc2 Rac8-+)* 27...Rae8-+ 28.Bg2 Bxg2 29.Rxg2 Re1+;

C2) 26...Rc8+ 27.Kb1 Qb7! 28.Qxd4 Qe4+ 29.Qxe4 Bxe4+ 30.Nc2 Rxc2 31.Bg2 Bxf5 32.Bh3 Bg6 33.a3 Be5 is what I calculated and I was proud to see that such a long line had no mistakes(!) though there were other wins along the way ist, was ich berechnet hatte, und ich war stolz darauf, dass eine so lange Variante keine Fehler(!) aufwies, obwohl es unterwegs

auch andere Gewinnmöglichkeiten gab]
[22.Bg5 Qe8+ 23.Kd2 Rxf5 with a massive advantagemit einem massiven Vorteil]
[22.Bxd4 Nxd4+ 23.Qxd4 Re8+ 24.Kd2 Bxa3 25.bxa3 Rd8-+]
22...Rxf6 Now Black is a piece up and it's a matter of techniqueJetzt hat Schwarz eine Figur mehr und es ist eine Frage der Technik. **23.Qg5+ Kf7 24.Qxh5+ Ke7** Roiz,M: 'The king is safe in the centre.'King runs back to the center, haha!Der König läuft zurück in die Mitte, haha! **25.Bg2 Bxa3** I found this move practically the simplest Ich fand diesen Zug praktisch am einfachsten **26.Qh7+**
[Roiz,M: 'Or' 26.bxa3 Qe5+ 27.Kd2 *(27.Kd1 Qxf5 28.Qxf5 Rxf5-+)* 27...Rxf5-+]
26...Rf7 27.f6+ Ke8
[27...Kxf6 28.Qh6+ Ke7+- was also possible.]
28.Qg8+ Bf8! Here is a cute nuance that I had foreseen while taking on a3 - if White doesn't recapture on a3 on the spot, he can never captureHier ist eine nette Nuance, die ich beim Nehmen auf a3 vorausgesehen hatte - wenn Weiß nicht sofort auf a3 zurückschlägt, kann er nie schlagen **29.Rge1 Rxf6** Roiz,M: 'Black is 2 pieces up now.' And the rest is just to watch :) Und der Rest ist nur zum Zuschauen :) **30.Kf1+ Ne7 31.Rxe7+ Kxe7 32.Qh7+ Kd8 33.Bxb7 Ra7 34.Qh8 Qe5 35.Bf3 Qf5** This is undoubtedly one of my best gamesDies ist zweifelsohne eine meiner besten Partien
0-1

B04
□ **Kovalev,Vladislav** **2612**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
Sharjah Masters 6th (8) 24.05.2023
[Erigaisi,Arjun]

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 g6 5.Bc4 Nb6 The game opens with the sharp Sicilian TaimanovDie Partie beginnt mit dem scharfen Taimanov-Sizilianer **6.Bb3** White opts for the 'usually solid' fianchetto variation Weiß entscheidet sich für die 'gewöhnlich solide' Fianchetto-Variante **6...Bg7** The ♙h5 in this very position is a rarity, but nowadays with Alphazero ♙h4/h5 should never be a surprise :) Der ♙h5 in genau dieser Position ist eine Seltenheit, aber heutzutage mit Alphazero sollte ♙h4/h5 keine Überraschung mehr sein :) **7.Ng5** White chooses a dynamic and semi concrete way of playingWeiß wählt eine dynamische und halbwegs konkrete Spielweise **7...e6 8.Qf3 0-0**
[8...Qe7 9.Ne4 dxe5 10.Bg5 Qb4+ 11.c3 Qa5 12.Bf6-+ is crushing both dynamically and positionally. Black is just 1 pawn down but White has tripled pawn,weak king etcist sowohl dynamisch als auch positionell vernichtend. Schwarz hat nur einen Bauern weniger, aber Weiß hat einen Tripelbauern, einen schwachen König usw. Bxf6!? 13.Qxf6 0-0 14.Qxe5 Qxe5∓ keeps less advantage objectively but more practical pressure. Also a good optionbehält objektiv weniger Vorteil aber mehr praktischen Druck. Auch eine gute Option 15.dxe5]
[8...Qd7 this just helps me get out with the queen with a tempo

das hilft mir nur, die Dame mit Tempo herauszubringen 9.Ne4 this was my first thought - threatening Qe7 das war mein erster Gedanke - es droht De7 dxe5 but already the attack is gone and our king will soon face a dilemma of where to go. 0-0 is not an option as White's ♕ will directly hit h5 once his ♔ moves to f1, and after 0-0-0 the f4-b8 diagonal and the c6 point are weakaber schon ist der Angriff weg und unser König steht bald vor einem Dilemma, wohin er gehen soll. 0-0 ist keine Option, da Weiß mit der ♕ direkt gegen h5 zielt, sobald sein ♔ nach f1 zieht, und nach 0-0-0 sind die Diagonale f4-b8 und der Punkt c6 schwach 10.Nf6+ and then I was looking at this, but once again, ♗ goes to g2, ♔ goes to f1 and it is Black's king which will be under some fireund dann habe ich mir das hier angesehen, aber auch hier, der ♗ geht nach g2, ♔ nach f1 und es ist der schwarze König, der unter Beschuss geraten wird Bxf6 11.Qxf6 White has other interesting moves such as this, ♗h3 etc Weiß hat andere interessante Züge wie diesen, ?h3 usw. Rg8 12.dxe5]

9.Qh3 h6 10.Nf3 Play is very much in the spirit of Sveshnikov. White made sure the d5 square is available for his ♘ but Black has his own activity Das Spiel ist ganz im Geiste von Sweschnikow. Weiß stellt sicher, dass das Feld d5 für seinen ♘ verfügbar ist, aber Schwarz hat seine eigene Aktivität **10...dxe5 11.dxe5 Nc6 12.Bxh6 Nxe5 13.Ng5** My preparation ended with this logical move which aims to target Black's h5 ♙ in the long run Meine Vorbereitung endete mit diesem logischen Zug, der darauf abzielt, auf lange Sicht Schwarz' h5♙ aufs Korn zu nehmen.

[13.Bxg7 Nxf3+ slightly more precise move order but both are good etwas präzisere Zugreihenfolge, aber beides ist gut 14.Qxf3 Kxg7]

13...Nd3+! I knew some concepts related to this movelch kannte einige Konzepte im Zusammenhang mit diesem Zug **14.cxd3 Bxb2** Black just sacrificed a pawn to get a strong hold of the h1-a8 diagonal Schwarz hat gerade einen Bauern geopfert, um die Diagonale h1-a8 fest im Griff zu haben **15.Nd2 Bxa1** Black's pawn deficit is compensated by the huge pawn center + White's ♘ on a3 Das schwarze Bauerndefizit wird kompensiert durch das große Bauernzentrum + den weißen ♘ auf a3 . **16.0-0?** A serious concrete error Ein schwerer konkreter Fehler **16...Bd4!** Immediately capitalizing on White's mistake.Schlägt sofort aus dem Fehler von Weiß Kapital.

[16...Bb2]

17.Nde4

[17.Ndf3-+ Re8 I was expecting this move Ich habe diesen Zug erwartet 18.Nxf7! Kxf7 19.Bg5 Rh8 20.Bxd8 Rxh3 21.gxh3 and White continues to face the initiative despite queens coming off the boardund Weiß sieht sich weiterhin Initiative gegenüber, obwohl die Damen vom Brett kommen]

17...Re8 18.Nxf7 Played not out of choice, but out of desperation Nicht aus freien Stücken gespielt, sondern aus Verzweiflung

[18.Nh7-+ Nd5 19.Bg5 f6 20.Qh6

A) 20...Kf7 21.Bxf6 Bxf6 22.Nexf6 c6 *(22...Nxf6 23.Ng5+ Ke7 24.Qg7+ Kd6 25.Nf7+)* 23.Bxd5

exd5! 24.Nxe8 Qxe8 25.Ng5+ Kf6!-+ 26.Nf3 Bf5 27.Re1 Qh8 with a massive advantage mit einem massiven Vorteil 28.Qf4;

B) 20...fxg5 21.Bxd5-+ Re7 22.Qxg6+-+ Rg7 *(22...Kh8 23.Nhf6 Bxf6 24.Nxf6!-+ Qf8 25.Re1* It is never too late to blunder! Es ist nie zu spät, Fehler zu machen!*)* 23.Nef6+ *(23.Nhf6+ Kf8)* 23...Bxf6 I thought this was promising but didn't look too clear to me Ich dachte, das sei vielversprechend, aber es sah für mich nicht sehr klar aus *(23...Kh8* this was my initial intention but I just left it here thinking it is getting complicated. but there are a couple of ways to win hereDas war meine ursprüngliche Absicht, aber ich habe es hier dabei belassen, weil ich dachte, dass es kompliziert wird. Aber es gibt einige Möglichkeiten, hier zu gewinnen *24.Qh6)* 24.Nxf6+ Kf8 25.Qh6 Qe7 26.Bf3]

18...Qd7

[18...Kxf7 19.Qf3+ Bf6 *(19...Kg8 20.Qg4 Kf7 21.Ng5+ Kg8 22.Nf3* is what I calculated and I was proud to see that such a long line had no mistakes(!) though there were other wins along the wayist, was ich berechnet hatte, und ich war stolz darauf, dass eine so lange Variante keine Fehler(!) aufwies, obwohl es unterwegs auch andere Gewinnmöglichkeiten gab *Qf6 23.Nxd4)* 20.Re1 *(20.Bg5! Nd7 21.Qh3 Bxg5 22.Qh7+ Kf8 23.Qh8+)* 20...Nd5 *(20...Qd4 21.g4* I thought this was the critical variation while calculating before playing ♙f6 Beim Rechnen, bevor ich ♙f6 spielte, dachte ich, dies sei die kritische Variante *a5* and then I finally saw this which was convincing enough to me und dann sah ich schließlich dies, was mich überzeugte *22.g5 a4 23.Bg7 Nd7 24.gxf6 Ra5 25.Bd1)* 21.Ng5+ Kg8 22.Qe4 Nf4 This is undoubtedly one of my best gamesDies ist zweifelsohne eine meiner besten Partien 23.Qxf4 Bxg5 24.Bxg5 Qxd3-+ 25.Qxc7]

19.Be3 Here I had to go into a long think to understand ♗d6 is actually important. Initially I didn't want to move that bishop at all as it looked like it is White's king's biggest enemy on b4 - making sure it has no squares available. So let's examine a few moves:Hier musste ich lange nachdenken, um zu verstehen, dass ♗d6 tatsächlich wichtig ist. Ursprünglich wollte ich diesen Läufer überhaupt nicht bewegen, da es so aussah, als wäre er auf b4 der größte Feind von Weiß' König - sorgt dafür, dass er keine Felder zur Verfügung hat. Also wollen wir ein paar Züge untersuchen: **19...Kxf7! 20.Qh7+** When I looked at this move earlier in my calculation I just assumed ♙f6 wins for me and left it there but only when he played it I realised it's actually not all that easy and I still have to calculate some linesAls ich diesen Zug zuvor in meiner Berechnung sah, nahm ich einfach an, dass ♙f6 für mich gewinnt und beließ es dabei, aber erst als er es spielte, wurde mir klar, dass es eigentlich nicht so einfach ist und ich noch einige Varianten berechnen muss **20...Bg7!** The point is to deliver a check before White could play ♗g2 and his ♔ could slide over to f1. And this move

wins that crucial tempo which means the world hereEs geht darum, ein Schach zu geben, bevor Weiß ♗g2 spielen und sein ♔ nach f1 rutschen kann. Und dieser Zug gewinnt das entscheidende Tempo, das hier die Welt bedeutet **21.Ng5+ Kf6** Again, Black castled not to get his king safety but to vacate the e8 square for one of the major pieces and attack the bishop at the same time! Nocheinmal, Schwarz rochierte nicht, um seinen König in Sicherheit zu bringen, sondern um das Feld e8 für eine der Schwerfiguren freizumachen und gleichzeitig den Läufer anzugreifen! **22.Ne4+ Kf7** Now Black is a piece up and it's a matter of techniqueJetzt hat Schwarz eine Figur mehr und es ist eine Frage der Technik. **23.Ng5+ Kf6 24.Nf3 Qd6** King runs back to the center, haha!Der König läuft zurück in die Mitte, haha! **25.Bg5+ Kf7** I found this move practically the simplest Ich fand diesen Zug praktisch am einfachsten **26.Bh6 Qf8 27.Ne5+ Kf6 28.Qxg6+ Ke7!** Here is a cute nuance that I had foreseen while taking on a3 - if White doesn't recapture on a3 on the spot, he can never captureHier ist eine nette Nuance, die ich beim Nehmen auf a3 vorausgesehen hatte - wenn Weiß nicht sofort auf a3 zurückschlägt, kann er nie schlagen **29.Bxg7 Qf5** And the rest is just to watch :) Und der Rest ist nur zum Zuschauen :) **30.Qh6 Nd5 31.g4**
0-1

A45
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2710**
■ **Azarov,Sergei** **2589**
FIDE World Cup, Baku (2.6) 04.08.2023
[Richard Palliser]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 Ne4 3.Bf4 d5 4.f3 It's no surprise seeing Erigaisi playing this way considering his like of Jobava-Prie positions in general. **4...Nf6 5.Nc3 a6**
[Keeping White out of b5. Even with the extra f2-f3 move compared to the Jobava-Prie, I suspect that 5...c5 6.e4 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bd7 is also fine, as we examined in Gareev-Debarshi, Mumbai Open 2018. The latest engines suggest that this should still be OK for Black.]
6.e4 e6 Sensibly strong-pointing the centre. **7.Qd2!?**
[A new try for Erigaisi. This was the second 10+10 play-off game and back in the first 25+10 one, he had preferred 7.Nge2 , after which c5 *(* a good case can also be made for *7...b5!?* , and if *8.a3 Bb7 9.Ng3 c5* with promising looking counterplay*)* 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0-0 dxe4 10.fxe4 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Qxd4 12.Qxd4 Nxd4 13.Rxd4 Bc5 had seemed very solid for Black in Erigaisi-Azarov, Baku (rapid) 2023, and was eventually drawn, as were the first five games of this mini-match.]
[There's also 7.Qd3 when I also suspect that b5!? is quite critical, *(* and perhaps even better than the *7...Nc6 8.0-0-0 b5* of Andreikin-Martinez Alcantara, Titled Tuesday (blitz) 2020, which can be found in the Archive. *)*]
7...b5

[Consistent based on what we've just seen, although with the queen on d2 White is fairly well placed to switch to a closed centre French structure. That may explain why 7...Bb4 has also been tried and after 8.Bd3?! *(8.a3!* feels right, and if *Bxc3 9.Qxc3 dxe4 10.Bxc7)* 8...c5 White was already struggling in Sailer-Zakarian, Titled Tuesday Blitz 2023.]

8.e5!

[While this may not have been deeply prepared, it does improve over 8.exd5 exd5 *(*there's also *8...b4!? 9.Ne4 Nxd5* , which looks fine for Black*)* 9.Bd3 Be6 10.Nge2 Nbd7 , which just seemed quite unclear in Sokolin-Yermolinsky, Denver 1998.]

8...Nfd7 9.Bg5

[With tempo - an important point. Instead, 9.Be3 c5 10.f4 cxd4 11.Bxd4 Nc6 would surely be a pretty decent version of a Classical French for Black.]

9...f6!?

[The dynamic option. The solid one was 9...Be7 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 when 11.f4 c5 12.Nf3 Nc6 should be closely compared with a Classical French. The dark-squared bishops are already off the board here and after 13.dxc5 Nxc5 14.Bd3 followed by 0-0 and Ne2 I'd slightly prefer to take White, but a French player might well not be too unhappy on the black side.]

10.exf6 gxf6

[Continuing dynamically. Instead, 10...Nxf6 11.0-0-0 c5 feels rather ambitious to me and 12.dxc5 Nc6 13.Qe1! would leave Black beginning to come under pressure in the centre.]

11.Bh6

[This feels principled to me, although I note that the engines prefer the retreats to e3 and h4: for example, 11.Be3 c5 *(11...Nc6!? 12.f4 Nb6* might also be considered*)* 12.dxc5 Nc6 13.0-0-0 Bb7 14.Nge2 Nxc5 15.Kb1 when Stockfish is likely right that White is slightly for choice, although the position is, of course, pretty complex.]

11...Be7?!

[A step in the wrong direction. Black would have done better with 11...Qe7 12.Bxf8 Rxf8 13.f4 Bb7 when he can always go long and surely can't be more than very slightly worse,]

[or even 11...c5!? 12.Bxf8 Rxf8 13.0-0-0 Nc6 with decent counterplay, and if 14.Re1 Kf7 , after which the engines even slightly prefer his chances, despite the slightly airy king position.]

12.0-0-0

[This can hardly be terrible, but 12.f4! with the idea of Be2 and mate on h5 would have been quite annoying to deal with: for example, c5 *(* or *12...Nb6 13.Be2 Nc4* when the simple *14.Bxc4 dxc4 15.a3 Bb7 16.0-0-0* is one route to a pleasant initiative and advantage for White, who will look to press down the e-file*)* 13.Be2 Qc7 14.Bh5+ Kd8 15.Nge2 when White's position is much the more harmonious and better developed, with ideas of levering open lines with f4-f5 high on the agenda.]

12...c5

[Going for counterplay, although 12...Nb6!? wasn't ridiculous, and if 13.f4 Qd6 14.Nf3 *(14.Be2 Nc6 15.Bh5+?! Kd8* actually only helps

Black, who is all set to attack with ...b4 and ...Nc4*)* 14...Nc6 when Black will at least get ...Bd7 and ...0-0-0 in.]

13.Re1

[This dynamic and slightly unusual structure cannot have been easy to navigate with little time, but here 13.Nge2 was likely correct, since b4 *(13...Nc6 14.Nf4!* works well too, based on the point *Nxd4? 15.Nxe6! Nxe6 16.Qxd5 Nc7? 17.Qh5#)* 14.Na4 c4 need not be feared on account of 15.Qe3 , and if Qa5 16.b3 when the queenside is secure enough and e6 can quickly be targeted.]

13...b4 14.Nb1?

[A definite mistake and all of a4, e2 and even d1 would have been better squares: for instance, 14.Na4 Qa5 15.b3 Nb6 16.Nxb6 Qxb6 *(16...Qxa2?? 17.Qd3* wins *)* 17.dxc5 Qxc5 18.Kb1 when White should still be slightly for choice as both sides impress with their lack of development at move 18.]

14...Nc6

[This is good and 14...cxd4!? might have been even better, since 15.Qxd4 Nc5 leaves Black beginning to dominate the board with ...Qa5 and ...e5 both high on the agenda.]

15.Rxe6

[There's nothing better because after 15.Ne2 Rb8 Black's play with ...c4 or even ...Nb6-c4 begins to look quite potent.]

15...Nxd4 16.Re1 Ne5 Plugging the e-file while seizing the initiative. At this stage, Azarov must have been pretty happy with how things were going.

17.Ne2 White absolutely must challenge the strong knight on d4, even if Black is now able to ignore any threat. **17...Bf5!**

18.Nxd4 cxd4 19.Qxd4 Qc7?

[19...Qd7! was somewhat stronger, with the point 20.c3? *(* as such, White would either have to grovel with *20.Nd2 Rc8 21.Kb1 Rxc2 22.Ka1;* or try *20.Rxe5!? fxe5 21.Qxe5 Rg8* , but even here Black must be clearly for choice *)* 20...Qa4 .]

20.c3! A fighting response to the mate threat and now Azarov was to rather collapse. **20...Kf7?**

[20...Rd8! would have shored up d5 and still been at least OK for Black: for example, 21.g4 Bg6 22.f4!? Nxg4 23.f5!? Bxf5 24.Bf4 Qc6 25.Bd3 when White has fair play for the pawn, but surely no more than that.]

21.f4! Driving the knight away so that White can capture on d5 without ...Be6 being possible in response. Erigaisi has also realised that he need not fear his bishop on h6 being trapped. **21...Ng4?**

[21...Nc6 22.Qxd5+ Kg6 was a better try, since the sacrifice on f5 only leads to a draw, so White would have had to find 23.g4! Kxh6 24.Qxf5 Kg7 25.Bd3 when he should be winning, although a little care might still be required in view of the situation down the c-file.]

22.Qxd5+ Kg6 23.Qxf5+!

[Olâ ! White either picks off the knight on g4 or mates with 23.Qxf5+ Kxf5 24.Bd3# .]

1-0

D02

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** 2689
■ **Xiong,Jeffery** 2691

FTX Road to Miami (rapid) (14.7) 13.07.22
[Richard Palliser]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.e3 e6 4.Nf3 c5 5.Nbd2 Qb6!? Just as in Grieve-Eggleston, this is a rather audacious attempt to bag an early pawn. **6.c4!?**

[Erigaisi meets fire with fire and this bold choice turns out to be new for us. We've previously only focused on the sensible 6.Rb1 , as in Carlsen-Ding Liren, Carlsen Invitational, Internet (rapid) 2020 - see the Archive.]

6...cxd4

[The limited practice thus far with 6 c4 has also seen Black try 6...Nc6 , whereupon 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.Bd3!? Qxb2 9.0-0 0-0 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Nb3 gave White decent compensation, but no more than that in A. Moskalenko-Vidit, Internet (blitz) 2022.]

7.exd4 dxc4

[Ruling out any notion of c4-c5, but allowing White to recapture with tempo. In any case, Black should avoid 7...Qxb2? 8.cxd5 Nxd5 *(8...exd5 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.Bb5+ Bd7 11.0-0* is even worse*)* 9.Rb1 Qxa2 10.Bxb8! Rxb8 11.Bb5+ Ke7 12.Ne5 when White's initiative far more than offsets the two gambitted pawns.]

8.Nxc4

[Very natural, if also new, 8.Bxc4 Be7 9.Bb3 0-0 10.0-0 Nc6 11.Nc4 Qd8 having previously been about equal in Woeber-Titz, Spitz in der Wachau 2020.]

[I should also point out that rather than recapture, Stockfish quite likes 8.Rc1!? , keeping all options open.]

8...Bb4+?

[Xiong will quickly regret the exchange of dark-squared bishops. Indeed, Black absolutely had to go 8...Qd8 when 9.a3 Be7 10.Bd3 0-0 11.0-0 Bd7!? shouldn't be too bad a version for Black of an IQP scenario.]

9.Bd2 Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 Qd8 11.Qb4 The problem, and already Black is simply in serious trouble. **11...Qe7 12.Nd6+! Kf8 13.Ne5!** Erigaisi follows up ruthlessly. **13...Nc6**

[White had, of course, prepared to meet 13...Ne4 with 14.Nexf7 when Nc6 15.Qa3 Bd7 16.Bd3 Nxd6 17.Nxd6 leaves him a clear pawn to the good.]

[Likewise, 13...Ne8 14.Nexf7 Nc6 15.Qc5 Bd7 16.Bd3 simply leaves him dominating the board.]

14.Qa3 Nxd4?

[Losing by force, although even after, say, 14...Bd7 15.Nexf7 Ne8 16.0-0-0 I somewhat doubt that Black would have survived.]

15.0-0-0 Nc6

[15...Nf5 16.Nxf5 Qxa3 17.Rd8+ Ne8 18.bxa3 exf5 19.Bc4 Ke7 20.Nxf7 is also a killer.]

16.Nexf7 Rg8 Sadly necessary now that the knight on d6 is so well protected. **17.Bc4 Bd7 18.Rhe1** The material might be level, but just compare the difference in coordination and activity between the two sides! One threat is now simply Ng5. **18...Ne8 19.Qh3** Hitting e6 and h7. The game is pretty much up for Xiong. **19...Nd8 20.Nxd8 Rxd8 21.Nxe8**

[21.Nxe8 Rxe8 22.Qf3+ Qf6 23.Rxd7 is simply a whole piece.]

1-0

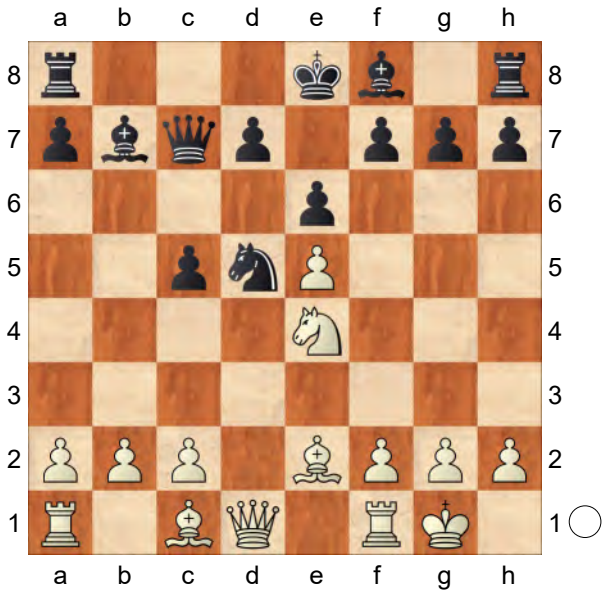
B45

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Harsha,Bharathakoti** **2602**
Dubai op-A 23rd (5) 31.05.2023
[Kitty Kat]

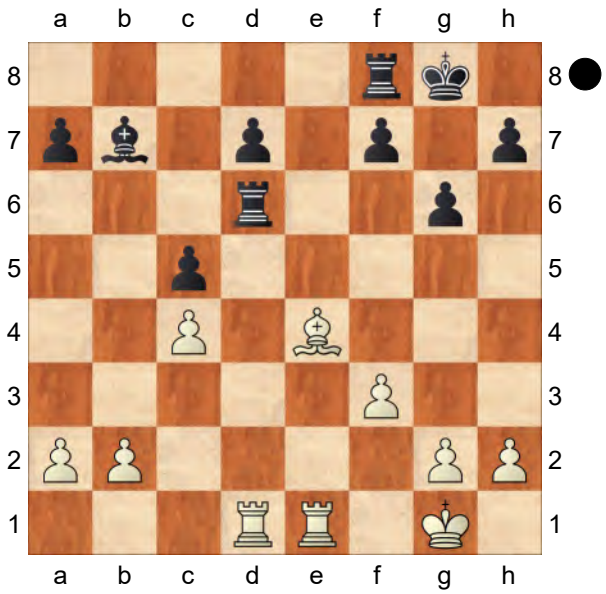
B45: Sicilian Four Knights
Zapata,Alonso: 'Zapata,A: 'Inf 47/(201)"
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
[4.c3 dxc3 5.Nxc3 d6 6.Bc4 a6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Qe2 Nc6 9.Rd1 b5 10.Bb3 Ra7 11.Be3 Rd7 12.Na4 bxa4 13.Bxa4 Bb7 14.Rac1 Nb8 15.Ba7 Nf6 16.e5 Nd5 Alvarez,A-Zapata,A (2490) (ch) 47/(201) 1989]
4...Nf6
[4...Nc6 5.g3 Qb6 6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nc3 a6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.a4 Ne5 12.Bf4 d6 13.a5 Bd7 B 44/01 2001]
5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Nxc6N
[6.g3 d5 7.exd5 exd5 8.Bg2 Bg4 9.Nde2 Bb4 10.h3 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Bf5 12.Rb1 Be4 13.f3 Bg6 14.Rxb7 0-0 15.0-0 Qa5 16.Bg5 Qxa2 17.Nf4 Rfd8 18.Qa1 Qc4 19.Rf2 Qc5 20.Nd3 Bxd3 Chapter-6.g3 2024]
6...bxc6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Ne4 Bb7 0.50/20
[8...Qc7= 0.12/19]
9.Be2± c5 10.0-0 White is more active.
10...Qc7

(Diagram)

11.Nd6+! White is slightly better.
11...Bxd6 12.exd6 Qc6
[12...Qxd6? 13.c4+-]
13.f3 e5
[13...Qxd6? loses. 14.c4+-]
14.c4 Nf4 15.Bxf4 exf4 16.Qd2 0-0 17.Qxf4 Rae8 18.Bd3 Re6 19.Rfe1 0.40/22



[19.Rad1± 0.86/20]
19...Qxd6 20.Qxd6 Rxd6 21.Rad1 And now Bd3xh7+! would win. **21...g6 22.Be4**



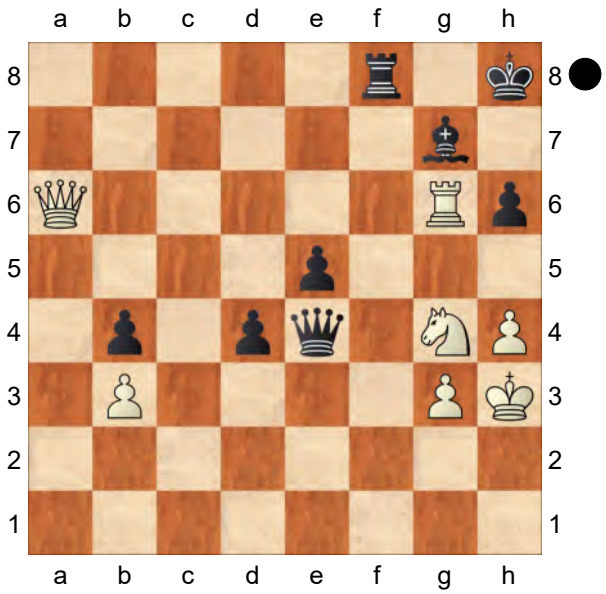
Discovered Attack **22...Rxd1 23.Rxd1 Bxe4 24.fxe4** Endgame. KR-KR
24...Rb8 25.b3
[Of course not 25.Rxd7 Rxb2 26.Rxa7 Rb4=]
25...Rb7 26.Rd6 0.22/24
[26.Rd5± 0.62/22 should be considered. Rc7 27.Kf2]
26...Kf8= 27.e5 Ke7 28.Ra6 Rb6

29.Ra5 Rc6 30.Kf2 a6 31.Ke3 f6 0.76/25
[31...d6= -0.01/26 remains equal.]
32.exf6+ Kxf6 33.Kd3 Ke7 34.a3 Kd8 35.b4 cxb4 36.axb4 Kc7 37.Ra2 Rb6 38.Kc3 Re6 39.c5 Kb7 40.Kd4 Kc7 41.Rf2 0.01/27
[White should play 41.Kd5± 0.53/23]
41...Kc6 The position is equal. **42.Rf8 Re2 43.Rf6+ Kb7 44.Rb6+ Kc8 45.Rxa6 Rxg2 46.b5 Rxh2 47.b6 Kb8 48.Ra1 Rd2+ 49.Kc3 Rd5 50.Kc4 Rd2 51.Rh1 h5 52.Rg1 h4 53.Rxg6 h3 54.Rh6 h2 55.Kc3 Rd5**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

B33
□ **Kovalev,Vladislav 2623**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2701**
Airthings Masters Play In rapid (7)
[Kitty Kat]

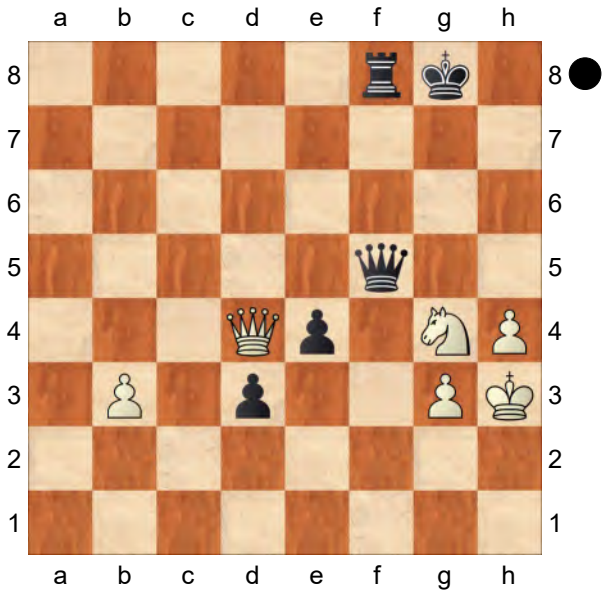
B33: Sicilian: Pelikan and Sveshnikov Variations
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bf4 e5 8.Bg5 a6 9.Na3 b5 10.Nd5 Be7 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.c4 b4 13.Nc2 a5 14.b3
[14.g3 Bg5 15.Bg2 0-0 16.0-0 Ne7 17.b3 Nxd5 18.Qxd5 Be6 19.Qd3 Qb6 20.Kh1 a4 21.f4 axb3 22.axb3 Rxa1 23.Nxa1 exf4 24.gxf4 Bf6 Movsesian,S (2695)-Tregubov,P (2629) 105/(221) Russia 2008]
14...Bg5
[14...Kf8 15.Bd3 Bg5 16.0-0 Rb8 17.Kh1 h5 18.f4 exf4 19.Nxf4 Kg8 20.Ne3 Ne5 21.Ned5 Bg4 22.Qc2 Rh6 23.h3 Be6 24.Be2 Qd7 25.Kh2 h4 26.Nxe6 fxe6 27.Nf4 Rf6 28.Nh5 Rf7 29.Rxf7 12.♗g1 d5 13e5 ♘e4 14.♗ (2161)-Vesely,J (2117) (m/1) 78/295 2000 (5) 0-1]
15.g3 0-0 16.h4N White has an edge.
[16.Bg2 Be6 17.0-0 Bh6 18.Qd3 Bxd5 19.cxd5 Nb8 20.Rae1 Nd7 21.f4 Nc5 22.Qf3 exf4 23.gxf4 Qb6 24.Kh1 a4 25.Nd4 Bxf4 26.Qxf4 Nd3 27.Qe3 Nxe1 28.Rxe1 axb3 29.axb3 Ra2 30.Rd1 Rfa8 Cordova,S (2128)-4. ♘d4 g6 5. ♘c6 bc6 35803 (2125) Koop Tjuchem 1996 (10) ½-½]
16...Bh6 17.Bh3 Be6 18.Kf1 Qb8 19.Kg2 a4 20.Qd3 Qb7 21.Rhd1 0.30/19
[21.Rhb1± 0.92/20]
21...Rfd8 1.08/20
[21...Ra7= 0.30/19]
22.Bf5 0.30/19
[Better is 22.Rdb1!± 1.08/20]
22...Ra5 1.34/21
[22...g6= 0.30/19 remains equal. 23.Bxe6 fxe6]
23.Rdb1 0.92/20
[⌓23.a3 1.34/21 bxa3 24.Rxa3]
23...g6± 24.Bxe6 fxe6 25.Nf6+ Kh8 26.Ng4 0.80/22
[⌓26.bxa4! 1.21/22 Rxa4 27.Ng4]
26...Bg7 27.Rh1 0.01/20
[27.bxa4!± 1.01/21 And now a2-a3 would win. Qa8 28.a3 *(28.Nxb4 Nd4±)* 28...Rxa4 29.axb4 *(29.Nxb4? Nxb4* Pin *30.Qe2 Rf8-+)*]
27...Qf7 0.51/18
[27...h5= 0.01/20 28.Nge3 Rf8]
28.Nh2 0.13/19
[28.bxa4± 0.51/18 is more appropriate. Rxa4 29.c5]
28...Rf8 29.Rhf1 d5 30.cxd5
[30.bxa4 is interesting. dxe4 31.Qxe4 Qf5 32.Qxc6 Qxc2 33.Rac1]

30...exd5 31.Ne3 -1.43/22
[31.bxa4= -0.01/20 d4 32.Rab1]
31...axb3∓ 32.axb3 aiming for Ra1xa5.
32...Rxa1 33.Rxa1 Qxf2+ 34.Kh3 d4 0.01/23
[34...dxe4∓ -0.54/24 35.Qxe4 Qe2 *(35...Nd4? 36.Rf1+-)*]
35.Nd5= Qf7 36.Kg2 h6 37.Ra6 Ne7 38.Nxe7 Qxe7 39.Rxg6 Qc7 40.Qa6? -2.51/25 This move loses the game for White.
[40.Qd1= -0.01/21 and White has nothing to worry.]
40...Qc2+-+ 41.Kh3 Qxe4 42.Ng4 -3.44/22
[42.Rxh6+ -2.06/22 keeps fighting. Bxh6 43.Qxh6+ Kg8 44.Qg5+ Kf7 45.Ng4]



42...Qf5! Hoping for ...h6-h5. **43.Rxg7?** -9.97/24
[43.h5 -2.93/21 Qxh5+ 44.Kg2]
43...Kxg7 44.Qxh6+ Endgame. KQR-KQN **44...Kg8 45.Qd6 d3 46.Qxb4 e4 47.Qd4**

(Diagram)

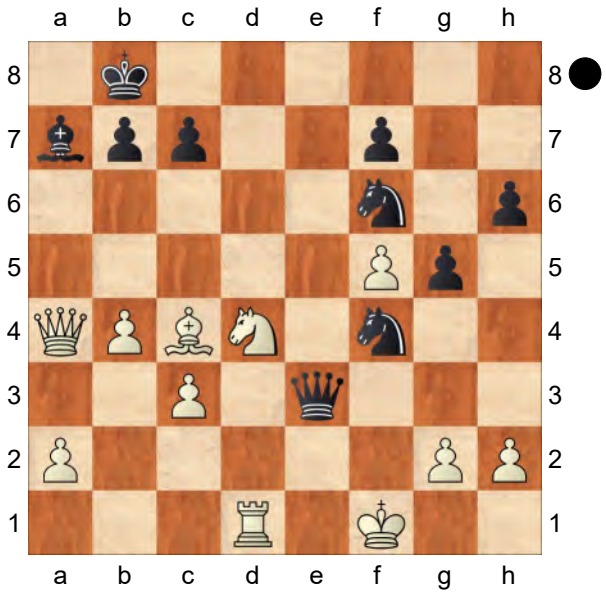


e3 -2.60/26 **48.Qxe3?** -5.67/27
[48.Kh2 -2.60/26 nothing else works. Qe6 *(48...Qf3 49.Nxe3 Re8 50.Qc4+ Kf8 51.Qc5+ Re7 52.Qc8+ Kf7 53.Qc4+ Kf8 54.Qc8+ Kf7 55.Qc4+ Re6 56.Qc7+ Re7 57.Qc4+=)* 49.Nxe3 Rf2+ *(49...Qxb3 50.Qg4+ Kh8 51.Qh5+ Kg7 52.Qg5+ Kf7 53.Qf5+ Ke8 54.Qc8+ Ke7 55.Qc5+ Kf7 56.Qf5+ Ke8 57.Qc8+ Kf7 58.Qf5+=)* 50.Kg1]
48...Qf1+ 49.Kh2 Qe2+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.75/ Black=0.54
0-1

C54
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Vakhidov,Jahongir** **2607**
Astana Satty Zhuldyz Rapid (5) 21.04.23
[Kitty Kat]

C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 d6 6.0-0 a5 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 Bd7 The position is equal. **9.Re1**

Ba7 10.Nbd2 g5 11.Bg3 Ne7N
[11...h5 12.h4 Nh7 13.d4 g4 14.Nh2 Qf6 15.Bb5 Sethuraman,S (2645)-Chatterjee,K (2496) 154/(111) Delhi 2022]
12.d4 Ng6 13.dxe5 dxe5 14.Nf1 -0.50/20
[14.Nb3= 0.23/19]
14...Qe7∓ 15.Ne3 0-0-0 16.Qc1 -0.87/19
[16.Qb3= -0.27/20 remains equal.]
16...Rhe8 -0.34/18
[16...Nxe4? 17.Nd5 Qd6 18.Rxe4+-]
[16...Kb8∓ -0.87/19 17.b4 Nh5 *(17...Nxe4 18.Nd5± Discovered Attack; 17...axb4 18.cxb4 Nh5 19.Nd5∓)*]
17.b4 -1.07/19 **a4** -0.01/19
[17...axb4?! 18.cxb4 Kb8 19.Qc2±]
[17...Nxe4∓ -1.07/19 Strongly threatening ...f7-f5. 18.Nd5 *(18.bxa5 Nxg3 19.hxg3 g4∓)* 18...Qd6 19.Rxe4 Bc6 20.Nxe5 Nxe5 *(20...Bxd5 21.Nxf7 Bxf2+ 22.Kh1±)*]
18.Nf5= Qf8 19.Qc2 Nf4 20.Rad1 Bxf5 21.Qxa4 0.07/23
[21.Rxd8+± 0.50/22 Rxd8 22.Qxa4 *(22.exf5 e4=)*]
21...Rxd1
[21...Nxe4 22.Qxa7 c6 23.Rxd8+ Rxd8 24.Bxf4 *(24.Nxe5 Nd6+-)* 24...exf4 25.Qa8+ Kc7 26.Qa5+ Kb8 27.Qxf5+-]
22.Rxd1 Kb8 23.exf5 With the idea Qa4-b5. **23...e4 24.Nd4 e3 25.fxe3 Rxe3 26.Bf2 Qe7** Threatens to win with ...Ba7xd4! **27.Bxe3** -2.33/20
[27.Bf1= 0.19/21]
27...Qxe3+-+ 28.Kf1
[28.Kh1 Bxd4 *(28...Qxc3 29.Nc6+ bxc6 30.Rd8+ Kb7 31.Qa6#)* 29.cxd4 Ng4-+]



Nd4-c6+! would kill now. **28...N4d5!** White must now prevent ...Nf6-g4!
[28...Qxc3 29.Nc6+ *(29.Bxf7? Bxd4 30.Qb3 Qc6-+; 29.Ne2 Qd3+-)* 29...bxc6 30.Rd8+ Kb7 31.Qa6#]
29.Bxd5? -9.55/23
[29.Be2 -2.63/22 g4 *(29...Qxc3?* too greedy. *30.Qxa7+* Decoy *Kxa7 31.Nb5+ Kb6 32.Nxc3+-; 29...Nxc3 30.Nc6+ bxc6 31.Rd8+ Kb7 32.Qa6#)* 30.Rd3 *(30.Qb5? Qxc3-+)* 30...Qc1+ 31.Qd1 Qf4+ *(31...Ne3+ 32.Rxe3 Qxe3 33.Bxg4=)* 32.Bf3 *(32.Kg1? Nxc3* Remove Defender, Decoy *33.Rxc3 Bxd4+ 34.Kh1 Ne4-+)* 32...gxf3 33.Nxf3]
29...Ng4
Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=0.13 (very precise) . Loss on time!?
1-0

A13

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2629**
■ **Socko,Bartosz** **2642**
Wch Blitz Warsaw (9) 27.05.2023
[GM Grigor Grigorov]

This game covers 3.e4 which is one of White's most ambitious ways of playing against 2...Bb4. **1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.e4** There are two major ideas behind this move: 1) establish a powerful centre with d2-d4 2) continue with Nge2 followed by a2-a3, thus grabbing the bishop pair without spoiling the pawn structure In my opinion, Black's most precise reaction is **3...Ne7** when our immediate threat is ...d7-d5. Additionally, as we are going to see in a while, Black is more than ready to play a position with doubled pawns. **4.d4** This is the main continuation for White. Now, White is ready to answer ...d7-d5 with cxd5 followed by e4-e5.

[After 4.Nf3 0-0 5.d4 c5 6.d5 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 d6 8.Bd3 e5 we transpose into a position that is examined later.]

[The slow 4.Nge2 allows d5⇄ when Black immediately starts fighting for the initiative.]

4...c5 In my opinion, this rare move is the best way of handling the position. The idea is to provoke the advance d4-d5, thus getting a blocked centre typical for the Huebner Variation in Nimzo-Indian Defence. **5.d5** This is by far the most principled approach.

[White can also try 5.a3 when Black will react in a similar fashion - Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 0-0 7.Nf3 d6 This move indicates our classical strategy. After parting with the dark-squared bishop, Black wants to put his central pawns on dark squares. Our next moves will be ...Nbc6 followed by ... e6-e5. Let's see what happens when White tries to keep the central tension. 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.0-0 e5

A) For instance, a good reaction to 10.Be3 would be exd4 11.cxd4 Bg4! This thematic move reminds me of the Yates Variation of the Ruy Lopez. White can no longer keep the central tension. 12.d5 The most logical choice. *(* Accepting the sacrifice with *12.dxc5 dxc5 13.Bxc5* does not promise much. After *b6 14.Be3 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Qc7⇄* Black enjoys fantastic compensation for the pawn. He will continue with ...Rad8 and ...Ng6.*)* 12...Ne5 13.Be2 Bxf3 14.gxf3 A sad necessity. White can not recapture with the bishop because the c4-pawn is hanging. f5⇄ Black has excellent counterplay in this position. In a practical game, I would definitely take Black.;

B) 10.h3 A typical move in such positions. The idea is to prevent Black from playing ...Bg4, thus putting pressure on d4. Black's main strategy in such positions consists of provoking White to release the central tension either by playing d4-d5 or dxe5. Therefore, Black will be trying to put pressure on d4. 10...Ng6 The knight is excellently placed on this square. Besides supporting the e5-pawn, Black can also play ...Qf6 followed by ...Nf4. The following couple of moves are quite typical for this structure. 11.Ra2 b6 This move shows Black's other typical idea in the pawn structure - attacking the c4-pawn by means of ...Ba6 and ...

Na5. The following couple of moves are quite logical. 12.Re1 h6 13.Be3 Na5 14.a4 Ba6 15.Qe2 Re8⇄ White remains without a constructive plan. Black can also increase the pressure on c4 by means of ...Rac8. Sooner or later, White will have to clarify the position in the centre.]

[Keeping the central tension with a move such as 5.Nf3 allows cxd4 6.Nxd4 0-0⇄ followed by ...d7-d5 which is one of the main ideas behing ...Ne7. Black can easily overtake the initiative in this position.]

[The continuation 5.dxc5 will be examined in the next example.]

5...d6

[Probably, I would have started with 5...Bxc3+ when most likely we would transpose to the game.]

6.Bd3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 e5 This is the first critical position. Compared to the Huebner Variation (suggested in my Nimzo-Indian camp), this version is more favourable for Black. The reason is that here Black can execute the thematic advance ...f7-f5 in one go while in the Huebner Variation we need to prepare it. In this position, Black should apply the so-called light square strategy. The reason is that he controls the light squares with all his minor pieces while White's dark-squared bishop does not have any influence on the light squares. Ideally, Black will exchange the light-squared bishops as well as one pair of knights. In this scenario, the tandem queen + knight will dominate White's completely useless dark-squared bishop.

8.f4?! This move is already an inaccuracy because after the exchange on f4, Black is very well organized to fight for the e5-square.

[The best move according to the computer is 8.h4 gaining space on the kingside and discouraging any ... Ng6 ideas. If possible, White will push the pawn all the way to h6. In a practical game, however, not many people will play like this. Nd7 In my opinion, Black is not forced to rush with the castle. *(*Wrong is *8...f5?!* in view of *9.Qh5+ g6 10.Qg5* with h4-h5 to follow. White has a huge advantage in this position.*)* A logical continuation of the game would be 9.h5 Qa5 10.Bd2 h6 11.Qg4 0-0 12.Qh4 f6⇄ Such a position would be quite typical for this line. Even though the computer would give White some advantage, Black's play is practically easier. By means of moves like ...Nb6 and ...Qa4 we can start attacking White's queenside pawns. Also, under favourable circumstances, Black can play ...f6-f5. At the same time, it's not easy to suggest a constructive plan for White.]

[Most of your opponents will play 8.Nf3 0-0 9.0-0 The following line shows how easily Black can achieve his dream position - h6 Before proceeding with ...f7-f5, it's important to take the g5-square under control. Otherwise, after the exchange of the light-squared bishops, White will play Ng5-e6. 10.a4 f5 11.exf5 Bxf5 12.Bxf5 Nxf5 Black is already better in view of his superior pawn structure and the possibility to play on the f-file. Let's go on a bit further - 13.Nd2 Nd7 14.Ne4 Nf6 15.Nxf6+ Qxf6

Black managed to execute all the desirable exchanges. He is now ready to apply his light square strategy. After doubling the rooks along the f-file, he can proceed with ...Qg6 followed by ...Nh4. The c1-bishop is completely useless.]

[An interesting continuation is 8.Ne2 This move is a kind of prophylaxis against ...f7-f5. Here, instead of the most straightforward ...0-0 followed by ...f7-f5, Black should start with Ng6 *(White's idea becomes clear after 8...0-0 9.0-0 f5? 10.f4±* This position occurred in the game 1-0 (27) Mastrovasilis, A (2315)-Gasparian, T (2230) Yerevan 1997. Being behind in the development, Black is not ready to play an open position. *)* 9.0-0 Nd7 Having placed our knights on g6 and d7, we are now ready to fight for the e5-square in case of f2-f4. After a move such as 10.Be3 a very good idea is h5! Now, we can say why Black delayed castling for so long. Black is planning to gain even more space by means of ...h5-h4. 11.Qd2 h4 12.h3 Qe7⇄ Black has excellent play in this position. First of all, the king can occupy the c7-square. This is the safest place for the king in this pawn structure. Later on, Black can gradually build a kingside activity. For instance, the maneuver ..Nd7-f6-h5 always comes into consideration. Later on, Black can either install a knight on f4 or strike with ...f7-f5.]

8...exf4 9.Bxf4 Ng6 10.Bg3 This position was reached in the game Erigaisi, Arjun Kumar - Socko, B, 2021. Now, my choice would have been **10...Qe7 11.Nf3 Nd7∓** followed by ... Nde5. Black is already slightly better.

½-½

A11

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**

■ **Piorun,Kacper** **2601**

Sharjah Masters 6th (1) 17.05.2023

[Erigaisi, Arjun, Kitty Kat]

A11: English Opening: 1...c6

1.c4 Erigaisi,Arjun **1...c6 2.Nf3 d5** As it was the first round, there wasn't much time to prepare after the pairing came but I knew my opponent likes to play in some creative way.Da es sich um die erste Runde handelte, blieb nach der Paarung nicht viel Zeit, um sich vorzubereiten, aber ich wusste, dass mein Gegner gerne auf kreative Weise spielt. **3.e3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 5.b3** Shutting down the bishop for good. Schließt den Läufer endgültig aus.

5...Bf5 At first sight this move may seem weird but it's actually the best square for the bishop as on c5 it gets hit with b4 and Black would suffer from lack of space if the bishop were to go to e7 Auf den ersten Blick mag dieser Zug seltsam erscheinen, aber es ist tatsächlich das beste Feld für den Läufer, denn auf c5 würde er mit b4 angegangen, und Schwarz würde unter Platzmangel leiden, wenn der Läufer nach e7 gehen würde

[5...Bg4 6.Be2 e6 7.Bb2 Nbd7 8.d4 Bd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.h3 Bh5 11.Rc1 Qe7 12.Re1 Rfd8 13.Qc2 Bb4 14.Nd2 Bg6 15.Bd3 b5 16.Bxg6 hxg6 17.cxd5 cxd5 18.Qd3 Rac8 19.Rc2 Rc7 20.Rec1 5....c6 (2000)-Line 1 (2542) 85/256 Kallithea 2002 (5) 0-1]

6.Bb2
[6.Be2 e6 7.Nh4 Bg6 8.Bb2 Bd6 9.0-0 Ne4 10.g3 Nxc3 11.Bxc3 0-0 12.Nxg6 hxg6 13.b4 Qe7 14.Qb3 Nd7 15.a4 dxc4 16.Qxc4 Rfc8 17.Rfb1 e5 18.Bg4 Rc7 19.Bxd7 Qxd7 20.Qd3 Qe6 Malek,D (2539)-5. Nf3 e6 6.d4 cd4 (2236) USCCC-1 Final 7476 1974 (7) 1-0]
6...e6N
[6...Nbd7 7.Nh4 Bg6 8.Be2 e6 9.0-0 Bd6 10.f4 0-0 11.g4 Ne4 12.Qe1 Be7 13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.g5 A 11/02 2000]
7.Be2 Here my opponent started thinking and I was expecting him to play either ♙h6 or ♘a6 but his choice totally surprised meHier begann mein Gegner zu überlegen und ich erwartete, dass er entweder ♙h6 oder ♘a6 spielen würde, aber seine Wahl überraschte mich total
7...h6?! 8.0-0 The position is equal. This inclusion only favors White Diese Einschaltung begünstigt nur Weiß
8...Nbd7 I was considering the plans with ♕c2 but I felt ♙e3 is the most flexible as I would anyway have to get my bishop out at some point while I wasn't sure if I should castle kingside or queenside yetIch habe die Pläne mit ♕c2 in Erwägung gezogen, aber ich fand ♙e3 am flexibelsten, da ich meinen Läufer sowieso irgendwann herausholen müsste, während ich mir noch nicht sicher war, ob ich zum Königs- oder am Damenflügel rochieren sollte. **9.d4 Bd6 10.Bd3 Ne4?** A serious strategic error that comes from wanting to activate the light-squared bishop. Ein schwerwiegender strategischer Fehler, der daraus resultiert, dass man den weißfeldrigen Läufer aktivieren will.
11.Qc2 Ndf6 White has a few different ways of playing against the IQP here Weiß hat hier ein paar verschiedene Möglichkeiten, gegen den Isolani zu spielen
[11...Nxc3 simplifies 12.Bxf5 exf5 13.Bxc3 Qf6]
12.Ne5!
[12.h3 -0.27/18 12.Nf3-e5 0.26 b5 0.60/19 is crushingist zermalmend *(12...Nxc3= -0.27/18 13.Bxc3 Ne4)*
A) 13.c5!? b4 14.cxd6 *(14.Nxe4 dxe4 15.cxd6* Discovered Attack *0-0±)* 14...bxc3 15.Bxc3±;
B) 13.Ne5?! Qc7 0.95/19 *(13...Nxc3± 0.40/19 14.Bxf5 exf5 15.Bxc3 Qc8)* 14.f3? -0.14/19 this was my initial intention but it misses the win due to a strong resource dies war meine ursprüngliche Absicht, aber es verfehlt den Sieg aufgrund einer starken Ressource *(14.Ne2± 0.95/19)* 14...Ng3!= 15.Rfe1 0-0 16.e4 dxe4 0.22/22 *(⌓16...bxc4! -0.18/22 17.bxc4 dxe4 18.fxe4 Bh7)* 17.fxe4= Bh7 18.Nf3 White still keeps a winning advantage here according to the machine! Weiß behält hier laut der Maschine immer noch einen Gewinnvorteil!]
12...0-0
[12...Nxc3 simplifies 13.Bxc3 Bxd3 14.Nxd3 0-0]
13.f3 0.08/20
[13.Ne2± 0.48/22 deserves consideration.]
13...Nxc3= 14.Bxf5 -0.40/22
[14.Bxc3= 0.08/20 is more appropriate. Bxd3 15.Nxd3]
14...exf5 Amongst all the options this is by far the best one due to a few factors: 1. Trading off the light squared bishops

only helped white. 2. ♘ on d5 is a monster and ♘c6-e7 is impossible as the bishop on f6 is vulnerable 3. White's ♘ in clearly superior to Black's ♗ Unter allen Optionen ist dies die mit Abstand beste, und zwar aufgrund mehrerer Faktoren: 1. Der Abtausch der weißfeldrigen Läufer half nur Weiß. 2. ♘ auf d5 ist ein Monster und ♘c6-e7 ist unmöglich, da der Läufer auf f6 verwundbar ist 3. Weißer ♘ ist dem schwarzen ♗ deutlich überlegen.

15.Bxc3! A very powerful move. Ensuring that Black can't do ♘a6-c7 while defending b2Ein sehr starker Zug. Er stellt sicher, dass Schwarz nicht ♘a6-c7 spielen kann, während er b2 verteidigt. **15...Qc8 16.c5 Bc7** Where do the rooks belong? Open files! Wo gehören die Türme hin? Offene Linien! **17.Nd3 Qd7 18.b4 Rae8** And White has all the pieces positioned at their best. So time for some improving pawn moves before taking any action Und Weiß hat alle Figuren in optimaler Stellung. Es ist also Zeit für ein paar verbessernde Bauernzüge, bevor wir etwas unternehmen **19.Rae1** White still has 2 more improving moves to make Weiß hat noch 2 weitere verbessernde Züge, die er machen kann **19...Re7 20.a4** It's time to take some action. Trading off the knights so that the c-file is open for the rookEs ist an der Zeit, etwas zu unternehmen. Der Springertausch öffnet die c-Linie für den Turm **20...Rfe8 21.Ne5 Qc8** Black is trying to cover all the squares but it doesn't helpSchwarz versucht, alle Felder abzudecken, aber es hilft nicht. **22.Qf2** Queen joins the party! Die Dame ist mit von der Partie! **22...Nd7** It was tough for me to move the ♘ away from d5 but it's time for an attack! Es war schwierig für mich, den ♘ von d5 abuziehen, aber es ist Zeit für einen Angriff! **23.Nd3 Qb8 24.g3 Nf8 25.Re2** White converts his strategically winning advantage to a fatal mating attack Weiß wandelt seinen strategischen Gewinnvorteil in einen tödlichen Mattangriff um **25...g5** 0.14/21

[25...Re6∓ -0.41/22]

26.Rb1! -0.72/22 Another very powerful move. I should have foreseen it but I was fortunate enough to find it here. And finally I stumbled upon this killer move Ein weiterer sehr starker Zug. Ich hätte ihn vorhersehen müssen, aber ich hatte das Glück, ihn hier zu finden. Und schließlich bin ich über diesen Killerzug gestolpert

[26.e4= 0.14/21]

26...Ng6 -0.35/23

[26...Qc8∓ -0.72/22 27.Kg2 Qe6]

27.b5 axb5 28.axb5 Qc8 -0.06/19

[Black should try 28...f4∓ -0.71/21 29.bxc6 fxg3 30.hxg3 Bxg3]

29.Ree1 cxb5 0.08/21

[29...h5∓ -0.31/22]

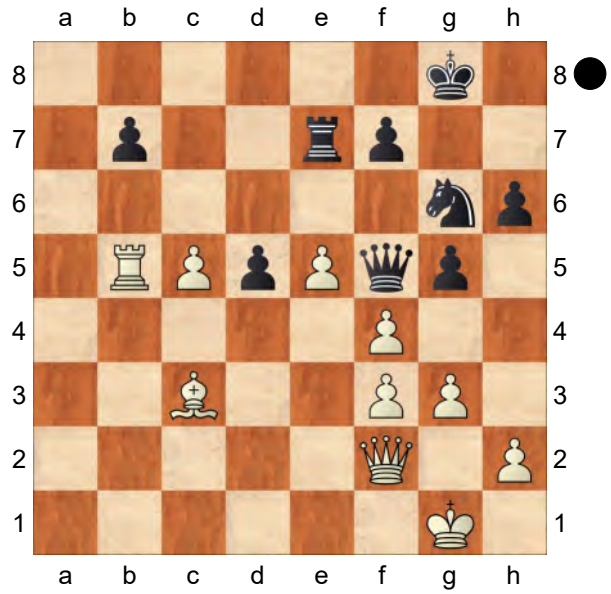
30.Rxb5 f4 31.exf4 Qf5 0.22/23

[⌓31...gxf4 -0.26/21 32.Rb3 h5]

32.Rxe7 with checkmate incoming. I was very pleased to start off such a strong tournament with a win, the accuracy of my play was a cherry on top of a cake - 99.8 :) mit kommendem Schachmatt. Ich war sehr erfreut, ein so starkes Turnier mit einem Sieg zu beginnen, und die Genauigkeit meines Spiels war das Sahnehäubchen auf der Torte - 99,8 :)

32...Rxe7 wins too but ♘d7 was more pleasing gewinnt auch, aber ♘d7 war erfreulicher **33.Ne5 Bxe5 34.dxe5** -2.49/19

[34.fxe5∓ -0.33/21 Qd3 35.Qb2]



This move loses the game for White.
34...Qd3-+ And Black simply can't defend f7 Und Schwarz kann f7 einfach nicht verteidigen.
[Not 34...gxf4 35.Kg2∓]
35.Rb3 -5.30/20
[35.Qb2 -2.50/17 was the only defense. Qxf3 *(35...gxf4 36.Kg2=)* 36.fxg5]
35...Qd1+ Black is clearly winning.
[Weaker is 35...gxf4 36.Kg2∓]
36.Kg2 Qxb3 37.Qd4 Qc4
Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/ Black=0.16 (very precise) . Loss on time!?
1-0

A50

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Piorun,Kacper** **2601**
Sharjah Masters 6th (1) 17.05.2023
[Erigaisi, Arjun]

1.d4 Erigaisi,Arjun **1...e6 2.c4 b6**
As it was the first round, there wasn't much time to prepare after the pairing came but I knew my opponent likes to play in some creative way.Da es sich um die erste Runde handelte, blieb nach der Paarung nicht viel Zeit, um sich vorzubereiten, aber ich wusste, dass mein Gegner gerne auf kreative Weise spielt. **3.a3**
[3.e4 is the principled way of playing for an advantageist die prinzipielle Art, um einen Vorteil zu spielen]
3...Bb7 4.Nc3 Nf6
[4...d5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bf4 We're in the Carlsbad strucutre with a slightly weird fianchetto for Black, so White's position is more pleasant though it's playable for Black. Wir befinden uns in der Karlsbader Struktur mit einem etwas seltsamen Fianchetto für Schwarz, so dass die Stellung für Weiß angenehmer ist, obwohl sie für Schwarz spielbar ist.]
5.d5 Shutting down the bishop for good. Schließt den Läufer endgültig aus.
5...Bd6 At first sight this move may seem weird but it's actually the best square for the bishop as on c5 it gets hit with b4 and Black would suffer from lack of space if the bishop were to go to e7 Auf den ersten Blick mag dieser Zug seltsam erscheinen, aber es ist tatsächlich das beste Feld für den Läufer, denn auf c5 würde er mit b4 angegangen, und Schwarz würde unter Platzmangel leiden, wenn der Läufer nach e7 gehen würde
[5...Be7 6.e4]
6.Nf3 0-0 7.Bg5 Here my opponent started thinking and I was expecting him to play either ♙h6 or ♘a6 but his choice totally surprised meHier begann mein Gegner zu überlegen und ich erwartete, dass er entweder ♙h6 oder ♘a6 spielen würde, aber seine Wahl überraschte

mich total **7...exd5?!**

[7...h6 8.h4↑ Here is a sample line of why Black shouldn't take the piece: Hier ist eine Beispielvariante, warum Schwarz die Figur nicht nehmen sollte: *(8.Bh4* is possible but ♙h4 is more in the spirit!ist möglich, aber ♙h4 ist mehr im Sinne der Sache! *)* 8...hxg5 *(8...Na6 9.Qc2* White has good initiativeWeiß hat gute Initiative *)* 9.hxg5

A) 9...Nh7 10.Qd3 f5 *(10...g6 11.Qd4)* 11.gxf6 Nxf6 12.Rh4!→ powerful move. prepares ♘g5 kraftvoller Zug. bereitet ♘g5 vor *(12.Ng5 Bf4* is the problem ist das Problem *)*;

B) 9...Ng4 10.Qd4 f5 11.gxf6 Nxf6 12.Ng5+- This position is a simple demonstration of why the quality of pieces is more important than quantityDiese Position ist ein einfaches Beispiel dafür, warum die Qualität der Figuren wichtiger ist als die Quantität]

[7...Na6

A) 8.Qc2 allows ermöglicht Be7! which threatens exd5 as well as ♘xd5! , was sowohl exd5 als auch ♘xd5 droht! 9.h4 *(9.e4?! Nxd5)* 9...exd5;

B) 8.h4! This move really impressed me, the point is that ♙h4 is the most flexible move for White Dieser Zug hat mich wirklich beeindruckt, der Punkt ist, dass ♙h4 der flexibelste Zug für Weiß ist 8...Be7 *(8...Re8 9.Qc2 Be7 10.0-0-0)* 9.e4 and we are in time to play e4 hereund hier wir sind rechtzeitig, um e4 zu spielen]

8.cxd5 This inclusion only favors White Diese Einschaltung begünstigt nur Weiß

8...Re8 I was considering the plans with ♕c2 but I felt ♙e3 is the most flexible as I would anyway have to get my bishop out at some point while I wasn't sure if I should castle kingside or queenside yet Ich habe die Pläne mit ♕c2 in Erwägung gezogen, aber ich fand ♙e3 am flexibelsten, da ich meinen Läufer sowieso irgendwann herausholen müsste, während ich mir noch nicht sicher war, ob ich zum Königs- oder am Damenflügel rochieren sollte. **9.e3 h6 10.Bh4**

[10.h4? Now this doesn't work well as Black has some runway space for the king Jetzt funktioniert dies nicht gut, da Schwarz einen Fluchtweg für den König hat. hxg5 11.hxg5 Nh7 12.Qc2 Nxg5 13.Nxg5 Qxg5]

10...c6? A serious strategic error that comes from wanting to activate the light-squared bishop.Ein schwerwiegender strategischer Fehler, der daraus resultiert, dass man den weißfeldrigen Läufer aktivieren will.

[10...Na6 should have been preferred though there's no doubt that Black is worse war vorzuziehen, obwohl es keinen Zweifel gibt, dass Schwarz schlechter steht]

11.Bc4 cxd5 White has a few different ways of playing against the IQP here Weiß hat hier ein paar verschiedene Möglichkeiten, gegen den Isolani zu spielen **12.Bxd5!**

[12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Bxd5 Bxd5 14.Qxd5 Nc6 15.0-0±]

[12.Nxd5 Be7 13.Bxf6 *(13.0-0 Nxd5 14.Bxd5 Bxd5 15.Qxd5 Nc6 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.Rfd1±)* 13...Bxf6 14.Qe2±]

12...Bxd5 13.Nxd5 Be7 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 Amongst all the options this is by far the

best one due to a few factors: 1. Trading off the light squared bishops only helped white. 2. ♘ on d5 is a monster and ♘c6-e7 is impossible as the bishop on f6 is vulnerable 3. White's ♘ in clearly superior to Black's ♗ Unter allen Optionen ist dies die mit Abstand beste, und zwar aufgrund mehrerer Faktoren: 1. Der Abtausch der weißfeldrigen Läufer half nur Weiß. 2. ♘ auf d5 ist ein Monster und ♘c6-e7 ist unmöglich, da der Läufer auf f6 verwundbar ist 3. Weißer ♘ ist dem schwarzen ♗ deutlich überlegen. **15.Qe2!** A very powerful move. Ensuring that Black can't do ♘a6-c7 while defending b2Ein sehr starker Zug. Er stellt sicher, dass Schwarz nicht ♘a6-c7 spielen kann, während er b2 verteidigt.

[15.Rb1 Na6 Black is at least able to breathe nowWenigstens kann Schwarz jetzt atmen]

15...Nc6 16.0-0 Rb8 Where do the rooks belong? Open files!Wo gehören die Türme hin? Offene Linien!

[16...Nd4 trading off the f3 knight doesn't helpmit Abtausch des f3-Springers hilft nicht 17.Nxd4 Bxd4 18.Rad1± with a strategically winning position mit einer strategisch gewonnenen Position]

17.Rac1 b5 18.Rfd1 Be7 And White has all the pieces positioned at their best. So time for some improving pawn moves before taking any actionUnd Weiß hat alle Figuren in optimaler Stellung. Es ist also Zeit für ein paar verbessernde Bauernzüge, bevor wir etwas unternehmen **19.g3** White still has 2 more improving moves to make Weiß hat noch 2 weitere verbessernde Züge, die er machen kann **19...Qa5**

[19...b4 20.a4 making sure Black gets no activity!um sicherzustellen, dass Schwarz nicht aktiv wird!]

20.Nd4 It's time to take some action. Trading off the knights so that the c-file is open for the rookEs ist an der Zeit, etwas zu unternehmen. Der Springertausch öffnet die c-Linie für den Turm **20...Nxd4 21.Rxd4 Bd8** Black is trying to cover all the squares but it doesn't helpSchwarz versucht, alle Felder abzudecken, aber es hilft nicht. **22.Qg4** Queen joins the party! Die Dame ist mit von der Partie! **22...Re6** It was tough for me to move the ♘ away from d5 but it's time for an attack! Es war schwierig für mich, den ♘ von d5 abuziehen, aber es ist Zeit für einen Angriff! **23.Nf4 Rc6 24.Rxc6 dxc6 25.Nh5** White converts his strategically winning advantage to a fatal mating attack Weiß wandelt seinen strategischen Gewinnvorteil in einen tödlichen Mattangriff um **25...g6 26.Qe4!** Another very powerful move. I should have foreseen it but I was fortunate enough to find it here. And finally I stumbled upon this killer move Ein weiterer sehr starker Zug. Ich hätte ihn vorhersehen müssen, aber ich hatte das Glück, ihn hier zu finden. Und schließlich bin ich über diesen Killerzug gestolpert

[26.Qf4?! Bc7 27.Qxh6? this was my initial intention but it misses the win due to a strong resourcedies war meine ursprüngliche Absicht, aber es verfehlt den Sieg aufgrund einer starken Ressource *(27.Nf6+ Kg7 28.Qe4* White still keeps a winning advantage here according to the machine! Weiß behält hier laut der Maschine immer noch einen Gewinnvorteil! *Kxf6 29.Rd7 Kg7*

30.Qe7 Rf8 31.Rxc7+- White's activity prevailsDie Aktivität von Weiß setzt sich durch *)* 27...Be5! *(27...gxh5 28.Qg5+ Kf8 29.Rd7)*]

[26.Rd7 As I realised ♕f4 doesn't give me much, I was looking at this move but once again Black has a strong defensive resource:Als ich merkte, dass ♕f4 mir nicht viel gibt, habe ich mir diesen Zug angesehen, aber wieder einmal hat Schwarz eine starke Verteidigungsressource:

A) 26...Bg5 27.Qf3 *(27.h4 Rd8 28.b4 Qb6 29.hxg5 gxh5 30.Qxh5 Rxd7 31.gxh6* good enough too as White wins the rook with checks but I hadn't seen this during the game auch gut genug, da Weiß mit Schachs den Turm gewinnt, aber das hatte ich während der Partie nicht gesehen*)* 27...Rf8 28.h4 is crushing ist zermalmend;

B) 26...Qa4! and Black activates the queen und Schwarz aktiviert die Dame]

[26.Nf4 after noting that Rd7 allows counterplay this came to my mind but once again Black activates his queen nachdem ich festgestellt hatte, dass Td7 Gegenspiel ermöglicht, kam mir dies in den Sinn, aber wieder einmal aktiviert Schwarz seine Dame Qe1+ 27.Kg2 Qb1 and Black is in the game und Schwarz ist im Spiel]

26...Bb6

[26...gxh5 27.Qe8+ Kg7 28.Rd7 And Black simply can't defend f7 Und Schwarz kann f7 einfach nicht verteidigen. *(28.Qe5+?? Bf6 29.Qxb8 Bxd4)*]

[26...Bc7 27.Nf6+ Kg7 28.Qe7 is crushing ist zermalmend]

27.Nf6+ Kg7 28.Nd7

[28.Rd7 wins too but ♘d7 was more pleasing gewinnt auch, aber ♘d7 war erfreulicher]

28...Rd8 29.Qe5+ Kg8 30.Nf6+ Kf8 31.Rxd8+ Bxd8 32.Nd7+ with checkmate incoming. I was very pleased to start off such a strong tournament with a win, the accuracy of my play was a cherry on top of a cake - 99.8 :) mit kommendem Schachmatt. Ich war sehr erfreut, ein so starkes Turnier mit einem Sieg zu beginnen, und die Genauigkeit meines Spiels war das Sahnehäubchen auf der Torte - 99,8 :)

1-0

E29

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Piorun,Kacper** **2601**
Sharjah Masters 6th (1) 17.05.2023
[Erigaisi,Arjun]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 As it was the first round, there wasn't much time to prepare after the pairing came but I knew my opponent likes to play in some creative way.Da es sich um die erste Runde handelte, blieb nach der Paarung nicht viel Zeit, um sich vorzubereiten, aber ich wusste, dass mein Gegner gerne auf kreative Weise spielt. **3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3** Shutting down the bishop for good.Schließt den Läufer endgültig aus. **5...c5** At first sight this move may seem weird but it's actually the best square for the bishop as on c5 it gets hit with b4 and Black would suffer from lack of space if the bishop were to go to e7 Auf den ersten Blick mag dieser Zug seltsam erscheinen, aber es ist tatsächlich das beste Feld für den Läufer, denn auf c5 würde er mit b4

angegangen, und Schwarz würde unter Platzmangel leiden, wenn der Läufer nach e7 gehen würde **6.e3 0-0 7.Bd3** Here my opponent started thinking and I was expecting him to play either ♙h6 or ♘a6 but his choice totally surprised me Hier begann mein Gegner zu überlegen und ich erwartete, dass er entweder ♙h6 oder ♘a6 spielen würde, aber seine Wahl überraschte mich total **7...Nc6?! 8.Ne2** This inclusion only favors White Diese Einschaltung begünstigt nur Weiß **8...b6** I was considering the plans with ♕c2 but I felt ♙e3 is the most flexible as I would anyway have to get my bishop out at some point while I wasn't sure if I should castle kingside or queenside yet Ich habe die Pläne mit ♕c2 in Erwägung gezogen, aber ich fand ♙e3 am flexibelsten, da ich meinen Läufer sowieso irgendwann herausholen müsste, während ich mir noch nicht sicher war, ob ich zum Königs- oder am Damenflügel rochieren sollte. **9.e4 Ne8 10.0-0**

[10.Be3 d6 11.0-0 Na5 12.Ng3 Ba6 13.Qe2 Qd7 14.f4 f5 15.Rae1 g6 16.Rd1 Qf7 17.e5 Rc8 18.Rfe1 dxe5 19.dxe5 Ng7 20.Nf1 Rfd8 21.Bf2 Nh5 22.Bg3 Qe8 23.Ne3 Qa4]

10...Ba6? A serious strategic error that comes from wanting to activate the light-squared bishop.Ein schwerwiegender strategischer Fehler, der daraus resultiert, dass man den weißfeldrigen Läufer aktivieren will. **11.Ng3**

[11.f4 f5 12.Ng3 g6 13.Be3 Nd6]

11...Rc8 White has a few different ways of playing against the IQP here Weiß hat hier ein paar verschiedene Möglichkeiten, gegen den Isolani zu spielen

[11...cxd4 12.cxd4 Black is at least able to breathe nowWenigstens kann Schwarz jetzt atmen Nxd4 13.Bb2 Nc6 14.e5 f5 *(14...Qh4 15.Ne4 h6 16.Re1 Rd8 17.Re3 d5 18.exd6↑* Here is a sample line of why Black shouldn't take the piece:Hier ist eine Beispielvariante, warum Schwarz die Figur nicht nehmen sollte: *f5 19.g3 Qg4 20.Qxg4 fxg4 21.Rd1)* 15.exf6 Nxf6± 16.Nh5 Qe7 17.Re1 e5 18.Ng3± Qc5 19.a4 Bb7 20.Qd2 Nd4 21.Rxe5 Qxe5 22.Bxd4 Qe6± 23.f3 should have been preferred though there's no doubt that Black is worse war vorzuziehen, obwohl es keinen Zweifel gibt, dass Schwarz schlechter steht Rae8? Now this doesn't work well as Black has some runway space for the king Jetzt funktioniert dies nicht gut, da Schwarz einen Fluchtweg für den König hat. 24.Nf5]

[11...Na5 12.f4+- This position is a simple demonstration of why the quality of pieces is more important than quantityDiese Position ist ein einfaches Beispiel dafür, warum die Qualität der Figuren wichtiger ist als die Quantität Bxc4 *(12...f5* We're in the Carlsbad strucutre with a slightly weird fianchetto for Black, so White's position is more pleasant though it's playable for Black. Wir befinden uns in der Karlsbader Struktur mit einem etwas seltsamen Fianchetto für Schwarz, so dass die Stellung für Weiß angenehmer ist, obwohl sie für Schwarz spielbar ist. *13.exf5* is the principled way of playing for an advantage ist die prinzipielle Art, um einen Vorteil zu spielen *cxd4 14.cxd4 Bxc4 15.a4*

exf5 16.Ba3 Rf7 17.Nxf5 d5 18.Re1 Bxd3 19.Qxd3 Nc4 20.Ne7+ Kh8 21.Nc6 Qf6 22.Ne5 Rc7 23.Qf3) 13.Bxc4 Nxc4 14.f5 cxd4 15.cxd4!→ powerful move. prepares ♘g5 kraftvoller Zug. bereitet ♘g5 vor f6 16.Rf4 is the problemist das Problem Qe7 17.Rh4 *(17.Qh5* and we are in time to play e4 hereund hier wir sind rechtzeitig, um e4 zu spielen *exf5 18.Nxf5 Qf7 19.Qh3 Ned6* allows ermöglicht *20.Nxd6!* which threatens exd5 as well as ♘xd5! , was sowohl exd5 als auch ♘xd5 droht! *Nxd6 21.e5 Nc4?! 22.exf6 gxf6 23.Rh4 Kh8 24.Bf4 Rae8)* 17...Rf7 18.Qh5 White has good initiativeWeiß hat gute Initiative h6 is possible but ♙h4 is more in the spirit!ist möglich, aber ♙h4 ist mehr im Sinne der Sache! 19.Qg6 Kh8! This move really impressed me, the point is that ♙h4 is the most flexible move for White Dieser Zug hat mich wirklich beeindruckt, der Punkt ist, dass ♙h4 der flexibelste Zug für Weiß ist 20.e5]

12.f4! f6 13.e5

[13.d5 after noting that Rd7 allows counterplay this came to my mind but once again Black activates his queen nachdem ich festgestellt hatte, dass Td7 Gegenspiel ermöglicht, kam mir dies in den Sinn, aber wieder einmal aktiviert Schwarz seine Dame Na5 14.Qe2 Qe7 and Black is in the game und Schwarz ist im Spiel 15.e5 f5 making sure Black gets no activity! um sicherzustellen, dass Schwarz nicht aktiv wird! 16.d6 trading off the f3 knight doesn't helpmit Abtausch des f3-Springers hilft nicht Qd8 17.a4 g6± with a strategically winning position mit einer strategisch gewonnenen Position]

13...f5 14.d5 Na5 Amongst all the options this is by far the best one due to a few factors: 1. Trading off the light squared bishops only helped white. 2. ♘ on d5 is a monster and ♘c6-e7 is impossible as the bishop on f6 is vulnerable 3. White's ♘ in clearly superior to Black's ♗ Unter allen Optionen ist dies die mit Abstand beste, und zwar aufgrund mehrerer Faktoren: 1. Der Abtausch der weißfeldrigen Läufer half nur Weiß. 2. ♘ auf d5 ist ein Monster und ♘c6-e7 ist unmöglich, da der Läufer auf f6 verwundbar ist 3. Weißer ♘ ist dem schwarzen ♗ deutlich überlegen. **15.Qe2!** A very powerful move. Ensuring that Black can't do ♘a6-c7 while defending b2Ein sehr starker Zug. Er stellt sicher, dass Schwarz nicht ♘a6-c7 spielen kann, während er b2 verteidigt. **15...g6**

[15...Nb3 16.Rb1 White still keeps a winning advantage here according to the machine!Weiß behält hier laut der Maschine immer noch einen Gewinnvorteil! Nxc1 17.Rbxc1 d6 18.dxe6 g6 19.exd6+- White's activity prevailsDie Aktivität von Weiß setzt sich durch Qxd6 As I realised ♕f4 doesn't give me much, I was looking at this move but once again Black has a strong defensive resource:Als ich merkte, dass ♕f4 mir nicht viel gibt, habe ich mir diesen Zug angesehen, aber wieder einmal hat Schwarz eine starke Verteidigungsressource: 20.Rcd1! and Black activates the queen und Schwarz aktiviert die Dame Qc6 21.Rfe1]

[15...d6 16.dxe6 is crushing ist zermalmend g6 17.exd6 *(17.Nxf5*

gxf5 18.g4 Rc7 good enough too as White wins the rook with checks but I hadn't seen this during the game auch gut genug, da Weiß mit Schachs den Turm gewinnt, aber das hatte ich während der Partie nicht gesehen *)* 17...Qxd6 18.Re1 Ng7] **16.d6 Ng7** Where do the rooks belong? Open files!Wo gehören die Türme hin? Offene Linien! **17.Ra2 Rb8 18.a4 Qc8** And White has all the pieces positioned at their best. So time for some improving pawn moves before taking any action Und Weiß hat alle Figuren in optimaler Stellung. Es ist also Zeit für ein paar verbessernde Bauernzüge, bevor wir etwas unternehmen **19.Rf3** White still has 2 more improving moves to make Weiß hat noch 2 weitere verbessernde Züge, die er machen kann **19...Kf7 20.Nf1** It's time to take some action. Trading off the knights so that the c-file is open for the rookEs ist an der Zeit, etwas zu unternehmen. Der Springertausch öffnet die c-Linie für den Turm **20...Rh8 21.Rh3 Qc6** Black is trying to cover all the squares but it doesn't helpSchwarz versucht, alle Felder abzudecken, aber es hilft nicht. **22.Ne3** Queen joins the party! Die Dame ist mit von der Partie! **22...Rbg8** It was tough for me to move the ♘ away from d5 but it's time for an attack! Es war schwierig für mich, den ♘ von d5 abuziehen, aber es ist Zeit für einen Angriff! **23.Rh6 Nh5 24.Rxh5 gxh5**

[24...Nb3 25.Qe1? this was my initial intention but it misses the win due to a strong resourcedies war meine ursprüngliche Absicht, aber es verfehlt den Sieg aufgrund einer starken Ressource gxh5! *(25...Nxc1 26.Qh4)* 26.Qh4 Rg6 27.Bxf5] **25.Qxh5+** White converts his strategically winning advantage to a fatal mating attackWeiß wandelt seinen strategischen Gewinnvorteil in einen tödlichen Mattangriff um **25...Rg6**

[25...Kf8 26.Qh6+ Ke8 is crushing ist zermalmend 27.Qf6?!] **26.Nxf5!** Another very powerful move. I should have foreseen it but I was fortunate enough to find it here. And finally I stumbled upon this killer move Ein weiterer sehr starker Zug. Ich hätte ihn vorhersehen müssen, aber ich hatte das Glück, ihn hier zu finden. Und schließlich bin ich über diesen Killerzug gestolpert **26...exf5 27.Bxf5 Qc8**

[27...Kg7 28.Qh4] **28.Be4 Bb7 29.Bxb7 Qxb7 30.f5 Qe4 31.fxg6+ hxg6 32.Rf2+** with checkmate incoming. I was very pleased to start off such a strong tournament with a win, the accuracy of my play was a cherry on top of a cake - 99.8 :)mit kommendem Schachmatt. Ich war sehr erfreut, ein so starkes Turnier mit einem Sieg zu beginnen, und die Genauigkeit meines Spiels war das Sahnehäubchen auf der Torte - 99,8 :) **32...Kg7** wins too but ♘d7 was more pleasing gewinnt auch, aber ♘d7 war erfreulicher **33.Qg5 Qh4 34.e6 dxe6** And Black simply can't defend f7 Und Schwarz kann f7 einfach nicht verteidigen. **35.Qe5+?? Kg8 36.Qxe6+**

1-0

D00
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2681**
■ **Sjugirov,Sanan** **2696**
Chess.com Week 17 Rapid (9) 04.06.2022
[Richard Palliser]

Richard Palliser,MH: 'D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines
' **1.d4** Richard Palliser,MH **1...d5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bf4 Bf5**
[Erigaisi has also faced 3...c5 of late, after which Richard Palliser, MH: 'of late, after which' 4.e3 Qa5 *(4...cxd4 5.exd4 a6* is somewhat more usual when *6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Ne5 Bd7 8.g4* is Andrey Esipenko's fairly dangerous pawn sacrifice White strives to open lines and while Richard Palliser,MH: 'is Andrey Esipenko's fairly dangerous pawn sacrifice White strives to open lines and while' *e6 9.g5 Nxe5 10.Bxe5 Ng8 11.h4 Ne7 12.Qe2 Nc6* kept them closed in Erigaisi-Bluebaum, Internet (rapid) 2022, I'd imagine most Jobava-Prie practitioners would be quite happy here as White after castling or pushing the f-pawn, but Richard Palliser,MH: 'kept them closed in Erigaisi-Bluebaum, Internet (rapid) 2022, I'd imagine most Jobava-Prie practitioners would be quite happy here as White after castling or pushing the f-pawn, but' *13.Nxd5?* was not so wise in the game where fortunately for Erigaisi, Bluebaum missed Richard Palliser,MH: 'was not so wise in the game where fortunately for Erigaisi, Bluebaum missed' *Qa5+ 14.Nc3 Ba3!)* 5.dxc5 (ever a critical choice when the bishop on f8 isn't ready to recapture) Qxc5 6.Nf3 *(*a little strange *6.Nb5! Na6 7.Nf3 Bd7 8.a4* is surely the way to go, with a classic bind and pleasant edge for White, and as recommended by Simon Williams Richard Palliser,MH: 'is surely the way to go, with a classic bind and pleasant edge for White, and as recommended by Simon Williams'*)* 6...Bg4? 7.Bxb8? *(7.Nb5! Na6 8.c3* takes full control of the position Richard Palliser,MH: 'takes full control of the position'*)* 7...Rxb8 8.Bb5+ Kd8 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Qxf3 e6 11.g4 h6 was just rather murky and unbalanced in Erigaisi-Durbayli, Internet (rapid) 2022. Richard Palliser,MH: 'was just rather murky and unbalanced in Erigaisi-Durbayli, Internet (rapid) 2022.']
4.e3
[A new trend or just a sign that Black is fine after we've considered expansion with Richard Palliser,MH: 'A new trend or just a sign that Black is fine after we've considered expansion with' 4.f3 e6 5.g4 Bg6 6.h4 , but the text can hardly be bad of course. Richard Palliser,MH: ', but the text can hardly be bad of course.']
4...e6 5.Bd3
[This natural move is new for us. Instead, 5.Nf3 a6 6.Ne5 Nbd7 7.g4!? sounded the charge in Chigaev-Iskandarov, World Junior, Khanty-Mansiysk 2015, which you'll find in the Archive, Richard Palliser,MH: 'sounded the charge in Chigaev-Iskandarov, World Junior, Khanty-Mansiysk 2015, which you'll find in the Archive,']
[while 5.f3 Bd6 6.Nge2 Nc6!? seems OK for Black, as we've also considered before. Richard Palliser, MH: 'seems OK for Black, as we've

also considered before.']

5...Bg6

[Retreating so is fairly standard in such positions, hoping to obtain a strengthened kingside after an exchange on g6, while also denying White the option of Richard Palliser, MH: 'Retreating so is fairly standard in such positions, hoping to obtain a strengthened kingside after an exchange on g6, while also denying White the option of' 5...Bxd3 6.cxd3!? .]

6.h4! I rather like this advance, refusing to let Black sit comfortably on the kingside and forcing an exchange on d3 since Black cannot really, of course, any longer respond by nudging his own h-pawn forwards. Richard Palliser,MH: 'I rather like this advance, refusing to let Black sit comfortably on the kingside and forcing an exchange on d3 since Black cannot really, of course, any longer respond by nudging his own h-pawn forwards.' **6...Bd6 7.h5 Bxd3 8.Qxd3** Richard Palliser,MH: 'The position is equal.' **8...Bxf4!?**

[A big decision, doubling the pawns, but allowing White a firm grip on the e5-square. Previously, Richard Palliser,MH: 'A big decision, doubling the pawns, but allowing White a firm grip on the e5-square. Previously,' 8...Nbd7 had seen Black trying to take control of e5 after an exchange on d6 in Potkin-Khairullin, Sochi 2020, where Richard Palliser,MH: 'had seen Black trying to take control of e5 after an exchange on d6 in Potkin-Khairullin, Sochi 2020, where' 9.Nf3 h6 10.0-0-0 Qe7 11.Kb1 0-0-0 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.e4 dxe4 14.Nxe4 left White slightly for choice, in part thanks to his Caroesque, cramping pawn on h5. Richard Palliser,MH: 'left White slightly for choice, in part thanks to his Caroesque, cramping pawn on h5. ']

9.exf4 0-0?!

[A risky choice and I suspect that Black would have done better with something like Richard Palliser,MH: 'A risky choice and I suspect that Black would have done better with something like' 9...h6 10.0-0-0 Qd6 11.Qe3 Nbd7 , much though I slightly like White who must have an edge after Richard Palliser,MH: ', much though I slightly like White who must have an edge after' 12.Nf3 and Ne5.]

10.Nf3 0.16/21

[In true AlphaZero fashion, the latest engines all want to go 10.h6!? 0.58/21 Richard Palliser,MH: ' ⩲' g6 11.Nf3 , but Erigaisi understandably sees no reason to rush such a potentially important decision on the kingside. Richard Palliser,MH: ', but Erigaisi understandably sees no reason to rush such a potentially important decision on the kingside.']

10...c5 11.dxc5! As we've already noted, this is ever a good pawn to swipe when Black lacks an immediate and natural recapture. Richard Palliser,MH: 'As we've already noted, this is ever a good pawn to swipe when Black lacks an immediate and natural recapture.' **11...Na6** 0.78/20

[Stockfish really thinks that Black had to go 11...h6!? 0.30/21 Richard Palliser,MH: '=' 12.0-0-0 *(*even *12.g4!? Nxg4 13.Rg1 f5 14.0-0-0* isn't totally ridiculous Richard Palliser,MH: 'isn't totally ridiculous'*)* 12...Nbd7 , although after 13.Nd4

Nxc5 14.Qe3 I'm not sure that many humans would feel overly comfortable as Black with g2-g4-g5 on its way. Richard Palliser,MH: 'I'm not sure that many humans would feel overly comfortable as Black with g2-g4-g5 on its way.']

12.0-0-0 0.20/23

[Better is 12.h6!± 0.78/20 Richard Palliser,MH]

12...Rc8 0.88/19

[I'm guessing that Sjugirov played this after spotting the problems with Richard Palliser,MH: 'I'm guessing that Sjugirov played this after spotting the problems with' 12...Nxc5 0.70/21 Richard Palliser,MH: '12...h7-h6 0.27' 13.Qd4 Nce4 , namely 14.h6 and if g6? 8.01/22 *(14...Nxc3± 0.68/20* Richard Palliser,MH *15.Qxc3 Qd6)* 15.Nxe4! Richard Palliser,MH: '+-!' dxe4 16.Qe5 , which wins material and the game in view of Qe7 17.Rd7! .]

[Once again, the engines feel that 12...h6 0.20/23 had to be tried and they're likely right - for reasons we'll now see. Richard Palliser,MH: '=' 'had to be tried and they're likely right - for reasons we'll now see.' Richard Palliser,MH: ' remains equal.']

13.h6! At last. Richard Palliser,MH: '±!'

13...g6 1.08/21

[13...Nxc5!? 0.58/23 Richard Palliser, MH: '⩲' 14.Qd4 Nce4 15.hxg7 Re8 feels pretty desperate, but equally might also have been a better try. Richard Palliser,MH: 'feels pretty desperate, but equally might also have been a better try.']

14.Ne5 0.62/22

[Centralising and strong, but 14.Qd4!? 1.08/21 Richard Palliser,MH: '±' '!' Nxc5 15.Ne5 was probably even better when b4 and Nd7 is the threat. Richard Palliser,MH: '!' Richard Palliser,MH: 'was probably even better when b4 and Nd7 is the threat.']

14...Qe7 15.a3 0.45/22 Sensibly keeping Black out of b4 while also threatening to advance there himself. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Sensibly keeping Black out of b4 while also threatening to advance there himself. White is much more active.'

[15.c6± 0.85/20 Richard Palliser,MH]

15...Qxc5 Richard Palliser,MH: '⩲'

[The knight on a6 finds itself misplaced and is quickly rerouted after this, but unfortunately for Black, Richard Palliser,MH: 'The knight on a6 finds itself misplaced and is quickly rerouted after this, but unfortunately for Black,' 15...Nxc5 0.89/22 Richard Palliser,MH: '15...Qe7xc5 0.44' 16.Qd4 Richard Palliser,MH: '!' Rfd8 17.Kb1 Ne8 wouldn't have been a panacea either: 18.g4! f6 19.Nd3 when the pressure will only continue to increase after Rhe1.]

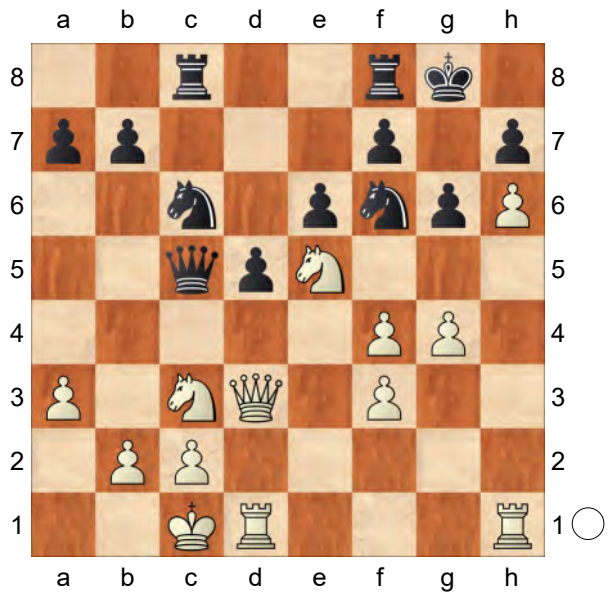
16.f3 Nb8! 17.g4 Nc6 1.19/22 Black would love to exchange on e5 and close down the diagonal towards g7, but Erigaisi was, of course, never going to permit that. Richard Palliser,MH: '

[Black should try 17...Rfd8 0.74/21 Richard Palliser,MH]

(Diagram)

Black would love to exchange on e5 and close down the diagonal towards g7, but Erigaisi was, of course, never going to permit that.' **18.Qe2** 0.47/21

[18.Nxc6! 1.19/22 Richard Palliser,



MH: ' ±!' Rxc6 19.Rhe1 Rfc8 1.37/22 *(⌓19...Qc4* 0.94/20 Richard Palliser, MH *)* 20.Kb1 followed by f4-f5 would also have been rather strong. Richard Palliser,MH: 'followed by f4-f5 would also have been rather strong.']

18...d4 19.Ne4?! Richard Palliser,MH: '↑' Richard Palliser,MH: ' White has good play.'

[Black is definitely back in the game after this, whereas Richard Palliser, MH: 'Black is definitely back in the game after this, whereas' 19.Na4

A) or 19...Qa5? 1.30/24 Richard Palliser,MH: '19...Qc5-d5 0. 47' 20.Nxc6 Rxc6 21.Rxd4 , and if Richard Palliser,MH: ', and if. g4-g5 would now be deadly.' b5? 5.77/24 *(21...Rfc8!±* 0.64/23 Richard Palliser,MH *)* 22.Qe5;

B) 19...Qd6 Richard Palliser,MH: '!' Richard Palliser,MH: ' aiming for ... Nf6-d5.' 20.Kb1 Rfd8 21.Nc3 Qc5 22.Ne4 Nxe4 23.Qxe4 Nxe5 24.fxe5 would have kept White firmly in the driving seat thanks to his safer king. Richard Palliser,MH: 'would have kept White firmly in the driving seat thanks to his safer king. ']

19...Nxe4 20.Qxe4 Rfd8?! Richard Palliser,MH: ' Wards off Ne5-d7'

[A little slow, in contrast to which Richard Palliser,MH: 'A little slow, in contrast to which' 20...f5! 21.Qe2 Nxe5 22.fxe5 fxg4 23.fxg4 Rf4 wouldn't have been too bad at all for Black now that he should no longer be getting mated. Richard Palliser, MH: 'wouldn't have been too bad at all for Black now that he should no longer be getting mated.']

21.Rd2

[21.Nd3!? was one way to fight against the concept of ...f5, which was now on again. Richard Palliser,MH: 'was one way to fight against the concept of ...f5, which was now on again.']

21...Rd5?! 22.Re1 0.01/24

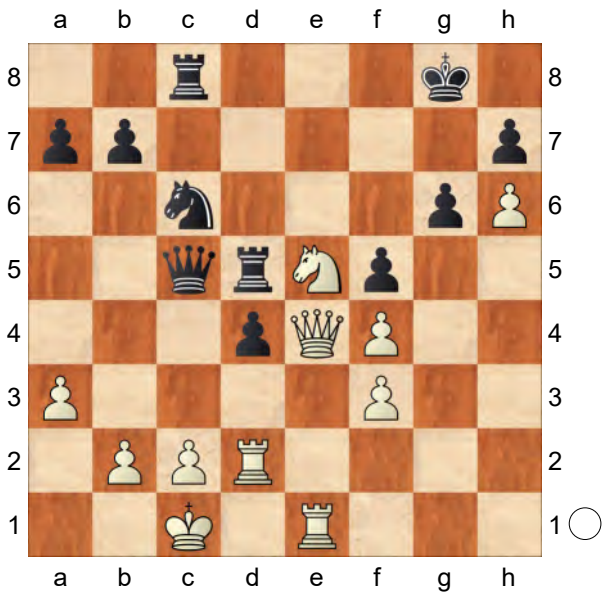
[22.Kb1± 0.41/22 (Richard Palliser, MH) might be stronger.]

22...b5? 2.59/23 Richard Palliser,MH: ' This move loses the game for Black.'

[22...f5!? 0.60/24 was still possible, although now White does have Richard Palliser,MH: '22...Nc6xe5 0. 01 was still possible, although now White does have' 23.gxf5! exf5 Richard Palliser,MH: '

(Diagram)

' 24.Qd3 , and if Richard Palliser,MH: '!' Richard Palliser,MH: ', and if. And now Qd3-b3 would win.' Nxe5 25.Rxe5 Rxe5 26.fxe5 Qxe5 27.Qb3+ Kf8 Richard Palliser,MH: '!' 28.Qxb7 with some advantage. Richard Palliser,MH: 'with some advantage.']



[22...Nxe5= 0.01/24 (Richard Palliser, MH) and Black has nothing to worry. 23.fxe5 d3]

23.Nxf7! Ouch. Yes, the rook on c8 is a loose piece and Sjugirov's position now collapses like a house of cards. Richard Palliser,MH: '+-!' Richard Palliser,MH: 'Ouch. Yes, the rook on c8 is a loose piece and Sjugirov's position now collapses like a house of cards. Discovered Attack' **23...e5?** 4.30/23

[23...Re8 2.74/21 Richard Palliser, MH: ' might work better.' 24.Ng5 Richard Palliser,MH: ' Black must now prevent Qe4-d3!' b4 was probably the last try.]

24.Nxe5 Nxe5 25.fxe5 d3 26.c3

[26.Rxd3? Richard Palliser,MH Qxc2#]

26...a5 7.09/24 Richard Palliser,MH: '?'

[26...Qc4 3.74/23 Richard Palliser,MH 27.e6 Qxe4 28.Rxe4 Kf8 29.Rf4+ Ke7 30.Rf7+ Kxe6 31.Rxh7 a5]

27.Rxd3 Simple chess. White is now three pawns to the good and, no less importantly, g7 is still under his control. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Simple chess. White is now three pawns to the good and, no less importantly, g7 is still under his control. White is clearly winning.' **27...Rxd3 28.Qxd3 b4 29.axb4 axb4 30.Qd7** Richard Palliser, MH: '

Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.45'

1-0

A13

□ **Gumularz,Szymon** **2588**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2681**
World-chT Rapid (11) 28.08.2023
[David Cummings]

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3 dxc4 5.Qa4+ Nbd7 6.Qxc4 c5

Less common these days, with the mainline instead continuing:

[6...a6 7.Qc2 c5 8.Nc3 Qc7 9.0-0 b6 10.d4 - see Ding Liren-Duda, in the Archives.]

7.d3 This move enables a quick Bc1-f4 which make it harder for Black to develop the queenside. The alternatives have proven to be less testing: now scores much better than the old 7.0-0. punktet besser als das ältere 7.0-0.

[7.Qb3 Rb8 8.0-0 b6 9.d3 Bd6 10.Na3 a6 11.Nc4 Bc7 12.d4 0-0 is analyzed in Ganguly-Saduakassova in the Archives.]

[7.0-0 b6 8.Nc3 *(8.Nd4 is adequately met by Ne5! 9.Nc6 Nxc4 10.Nxd8 Nd5 11.Nc3 Kxd8 12.Nxd5 Bb7* with level chances) 8...Bb7 9.d4 Rc8 and Black was comfortable in the 2015 game Grischuk-Eljanov, also in the Archives.]

7...a6 In this position:

[7...b6? now doesn't work because of

8.Nd4 In contrast to the previous note, White's queen is now defended, which makes a big difference after Ne5 9.Nc6 Nxc6 10.Bxc6+ Bd7 11.Bxa8 Qxa8 12.0-0 and White has extra material, Dominguez Perez,L (2758)-Zumsande,M (2465) Chess.com INT 2020 1-0 (36)]

8.Qb3 Bd6 instead:

[8...b5? 9.Ne5 wins material]

[8...Qc7 may be Black's best, for example

A) 9.a4 b6 10.Na3 Bb7 11.Nc4 and now

A1) 11...Be7 12.Bf4 Qc6 *(12...Qd8 is less awkward)* 13.e4 b5 14.Na5 Nemeth,Z (2246)-Haubro,M (2395) Dublin 2023 0-1 (68), and here Qb6 15.Nxb7 Qxb7 16.axb5 0-0 17.b6 leaves White with the slightly better structure.;

A2) 11...Bd6 it doesn't feel natural to give up the bishop pair, but after 12.Nxd6+ Qxd6 13.0-0 0-0 14.Bf4 Qe7 Black has a very solid position.;

B) 9.Bf4 Bd6 10.Bxd6 Qxd6 11.Nbd2 0-0 12.0-0 Fedoseev,V (2676)-So,W (2769) Chess.com INT 2023 â-â (63), and now b5 is equal]

9.a4 An important motif, cramping Black's queenside **9...0-0 10.a5 Nd5 11.Nbd2 Rb8 12.0-0 b5** Black frees his position, but is left with split pawns on the queenside. **13.axb6 N7xb6 14.Qd1N** The first new move, varying from:

[Vorgänger: 14.Ne4 Nd7 15.Qc2 Be7 16.Bd2 f5?! 17.Nc3 Nb4 18.Qb3 Nf6 19.Rfc1 Nc6 20.Qa2 Sadhwani,R (2603)-Zawadzka,J (2407) Sharjah Masters 4th 2021 (6) 1-0 Nd4 21.Nxd4 cxd4 22.Na4 Kh8 23.Nc5 and White has strong pressure on Black's weak pawns, Sadhwani,R (2603)-Zawadzka,J (2407) Sharjah 2021 1-0 (64)]

[14.Nc4 Nxc4 15.Qxc4 Gumularz,S (2534)-Kiolbasa,O (2388) Elblag 2022 1-0 (41), when Black can continue with, for example Rb5 16.b3 Bb7 17.Bb2 Be7 followed by ...Be7-f6, with balanced chances.]

14...Qc7 15.Ne4 Be7 16.Bd2 Nd7 17.Qc2 Qb6 18.Bc3 Bb7 19.Ned2 White's better pawn structure gives him a slight edge. **19...Nb4 20.Qb1**

[20.Qc1 is more flexible]

20...Bd5 21.Rc1 Rfc8 22.Ne5 Nxe5 23.Bxe5 Bd6 24.Bc3 Qb7 Black wants to trade the light-squared bishops on his own terms. After:

[24...Bxg2 25.Kxg2 Qc6+ 26.Kg1 White keeps the structural edge.]

25.Bh3

[25.Bxd5 exd5 allows Black to solve his problems.]

25...Be7 26.b3 Nc6 27.e3 Nb4 28.Nc4 Rd8 29.Bf1 Bf8 30.Ra3 Qd7 Black has manoeuvred well, and is now back on terms. The text move offers a pawn in return for counterplay. **31.Bxb4 Rxb4 32.Rxa6 Rdb8 33.Ra3 h5 34.h4 Qb7 35.Qc2 g6 36.Rca1** White could have held on to the b3-pawn, but it is hard to see how to make progress. **36...Rxb3 37.Ra7** Over the next few moves, White starts to risk matters by appearing to push too hard.

[37.Rxb3 Qxb3 38.Qxb3 Rxb3 is just equal.]

37...Qb4 38.Qe2 Qc3 39.Rd1 Rb1 40.Ra3 Qf6 41.Bg2?? Blundering the game.

[41.Ra2 is level, since Bf3 42.Rxb1 Rxb1 43.Qc2 Re1 44.Nd2 holds for White]

41...Bxc4 42.dxc4 R8b2 White loses the queen or gets checkmated.

0-1

C24

□ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2714**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2675**
Sigeman & Co 27th (5) 07.05.2022
[Ris, Robert]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.0-0 Be7 7.Re1 f6 8.d4 Nb6 9.Bb3

[9.Bb5 see the game Martirosyan-Yakubboev.]

9...Nxd4 10.Nxd4 Qxd4 11.Qxd4

[11.Qh5+?! g6 12.Qf3 Qg4!? 13.Qe3 Bd7 14.h3 Qb4∓]

11...exd4 12.Bf4

[12.a4 Bf5 13.a5?! Nd7∓]

12...Bf5

[12...c6?? 13.Bd6+-]

13.Bxc7

[13.Nd2 Kd7 14.Bxc7 transposes.]

13...Kd7 14.Nd2

[14.Bxb6 see 15.Bxb6]

14...Bc5 15.Ne4

[15.Bxb6 axb6

A) 16.Rad1 Rhe8 17.Rxe8 *(17.Nf3 Kc6=)* 17...Kxe8! *(17...Rxe8?? 18.Ba4++-)* 18.Nf3 Rd8= *(18...Bg4* Demchenko-Erigaisi, Chess.com 2022 *19.Rd3!?)*;

B) 16.Nf3 Kc7=;

C) 16.Ne4

C1) 16...Rhe8 17.Ng3! Bg6 18.h4 Re5 19.h5 Be8 20.h6 gxh6 *(20...g6? 21.Ne4 Ke7 22.f4+-)* 21.Ne4 Bg6 22.Nxf6+ Kd6 23.Rad1 h5 *(23...Rd8!?)* 24.g3 Rd8 25.Kg2 Rf5 26.Ne4+ Kc7 27.f4! Be7? *(27...Bb4!?)* 28.c3 dxc3 29.Nxc3 Rxd1 30.Rxd1 Bc5 31.Nb5+ Kc6 32.Na7+ Kc7 33.Nb5+ Kc6 34.Ba4 Rf8 35.Nd4+ Kd5 36.Bb3+ Ke4 37.Ne6 Rc8 38.Bc2+ Ke3 39.f5 Be7 40.Rd3+ Ke2 41.Nd4+ 1-0 Kosteniuk-Koneru, Saint Louis 2023;

C2) 16...Kc6!? 17.Ng3 Bg6 18.h4 h6=]

[15.Bg3 Esipenko-Yakubboev, Almaty 2022 Rhe8=]

15...Kxc7

[15...Bxe4 16.Bxb6 axb6 17.Rxe4± gives White a riskfree edge in Nguyen-Ganguly, Saint Louis 2022]

16.Nxc5 Rae8! Very accurate. Once Black captures on c2 the black king may be evacuated to b8.

[16...Rhe8? 17.Be6!±]

17.Be6

[17.Ne6+ Bxe6 18.Bxe6 Kd6=]

17...Bxc2 18.Rac1 Bg6! 19.f4

[19.Na6+ Kd6 20.Nc7 d3! is sharp and could easily go wrong for one side. 21.Nxe8+ Rxe8 22.Bb3 d2 23.Red1 Re2 24.h4!? *(24.Kf1?? fails to Bd3!-+; 24.Rc3 Re1+ 25.Rxe1 dxe1Q#)* 24...a5 *(24...Bd3?* is met by *25.Rc3+-* and there is no longer back rank mate. *)*

A) 25.Rc3 a4! Attempting to deflect the bishop protecting the rook on d1. 26.Kf1 Re1+ 27.Rxe1 dxe1Q+ 28.Kxe1 axb3 29.Rxb3 Kc6 with an equal endgame.;

B) 25.a4 Be4! 26.Rc3 *(26.Kf1?? Bd3-+)* 26...Nd5! 27.Rc4 Ke5

28.Rc8 Kd4 29.Re8 Kc5 30.Kh2 Nf4 31.Kg3 Nh5+ 32.Kh2 Nf4=;
C) 25.h5 Be4! 26.f3 Bd5 27.Ra1 *(27.Bxd5 dxc1Q-+)* 27...a4 28.Bxd5 Nxd5 29.Kf1 Nf4 30.g3 Kd5 31.gxf4 Rh2 32.Kg1 Re2= and despite the extra rook, White is unable to untangle.]

19...Kb8 Now it becomes clear why Black played 16...Rae8 as otherwise it would have been trapped on a8. **20.f5 Bh5 21.Re4** Threatening to take the pawn on d4 and to win the bishop with g2-g4. **21...Rd8! 22.g4?!**
[22.Rc2 d3 23.Rd2 Be2 24.Kf2 Rhe8= with a more or less balanced position.]

22...Be8 23.Rd1 Na4 24.Nb3?!
[24.Nxa4 Bxa4 25.Rdxd4 Bc6 26.Rf4 Kc7∓ and White still has to be a bit careful.]

24...Nxb2 Missed opportunity
[24...d3!∓ May still have posed White some serious problems.]

25.Rexd4 Rxd4 26.Rxd4 Kc7 27.Nc5 b6 28.Na6+ Kb7 29.Nb4 a5 30.Bd5+ Kc8 31.Rd2?!
[31.Be6+ Kb7 32.Bd5+=]

31...Na4 32.Rc2+ Kd8 33.Na6 Bb5 34.Nc7 Bd7 35.Bb3 h5
[35...Nc5 36.Nd5 a4 37.Bc4 Bc6 38.Nxb6 Kc7 39.Nd5+ Kd6=]

36.Nd5 hxg4 37.Bxa4?
[37.Rd2!? Nc5 38.Nxb6 Kc7 39.Nxd7 Nxd7∓]

37...Bxa4 38.Rd2 b5?
[38...Bc6! 39.Nxf6+ *(39.Nxb6+ Ke7∓)* 39...Kc7 40.Nxg4 Rh5 41.Ne3 Be4∓]

39.Nxf6+ Kc8 40.Nxg4 Rd8 41.Rxd8+ Kxd8 42.f6 gxf6 43.Nxf6 b4 44.Kf2 Bc2 45.Nd5 Be4 46.Nb6 Bb1 47.Ke3 Bxa2 48.Kd4 Bf7 49.Kc5 Ke7 50.Na4 ½-½

D44
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2675**
■ **Shirov,Alexei** **2693**
27th Sigeman & Co 2022 (1.1) 03.05.22
[Justin Tan]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 dxc4 6.e4 b5 7.e5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Nxg5 hxg5 10.Bxg5 Nbd7 11.exf6 Bb7 12.Be2 A rare move. Shirov is obviously an expert in the lines he plays, but as they are so sharp, it is easy for his opponents to target a specific line in preparation. **12...Nxf6 13.Bf3 Be7 14.g3** A novelty, but it is the engine's top choice.
[The point is that the immediate 14.0-0 allows Qc7 15.g3 0-0-0∞]

14...Qb6
[14...Nd5 is a good alternative. 15.Bxe7 Qxe7 The engine top line 16.a4 leads to a very concrete and forcing line, which usually means that Black will successfully equalise if they know what they're doing. There are other moves here but for now let's see the main line: 16.a4 *(16.0-0 0-0-0 17.Nxd5 exd5∞)* 16...b4 17.Ne4 0-0-0 18.Qe2 c3! *(The immediate 18...e5?! 19.Qxc4 f5 20.Nc5* doesn't really work as after *exd4+ 21.Kf1* There is nothing to show for the completely broken position.*)* 19.bxc3 e5!
A) Now if 20.Qc4? f5! 21.Nc5 exd4+ 22.Kf1 dxc3∓;
B) 20.c4 Nc7 21.0-0-0 exd4 22.h4 f5 23.Nd2 The knight prepares to go to b3. *(23.Ng5?!*

Qd7∓) 23...Qxe2 24.Bxe2 d3 25.Bf3 Ne6 26.Rhe1 *(26.Nb3 Nd4 27.Nxd4 Rxd4=)* 26...Nd4 27.Re3 f4 28.Rxd3 c5 29.Bxb7+ Kxb7=;

C) 20.cxb4 Qxb4+ 21.Qd2 f5! Simplest. 22.Nc5 Nc3 23.Nxb7 Rxd4 24.Qc2 e4 25.Be2 Nxe2+ 26.Kxe2 Qxb7∞]

15.0-0 0-0-0 16.Qe2 Qxd4 17.Rfd1 Qc5 18.h4 Rhg8 19.Rxd8+

[White could also have flicked in the moves 19.a4 a6 20.Bxf6 *(20.Rxd8+ Bxd8 21.Bxf6 Bxf6 22.Ne4 Qe5 23.Nxf6 Qxf6 24.h5 Rd8* would be a transposition to the game except that White has forced the opponent into playing ...a6 whereas Shirov took the opportunity to play 24...c3.*)* 20...Bxf6 21.Ne4 Qe5 22.Nxf6 Qxf6 23.h5 Kc7 with a mess, as always in the Botvinnik.]

19...Bxd8 20.Bxf6 Bxf6 21.Ne4 Qe5 22.Nxf6 Qxf6 23.h5 Rd8 24.a4 c3!

[24...a6∞]

25.axb5 cxb2

[The clean equaliser, supposedly, was 25...Rd2! 26.Qe3 cxb2 27.Rb1 Rc2! 28.Be4 Rc4 29.bxc6 *(29.Bd3 Rc3 30.h6 c5 31.h7 c4 32.Qc5+ Kd7 33.Bf1 Rc1* and a draw is made, typically because both sides have very extreme counterplay. *34.Qxa7 Rxb1 35.Qxb7+ Kd8 36.h8Q+ Qxh8 37.Qb8+ Ke7 38.Qc7+)* 29...Bxc6 30.Bxc6 Rxc6 31.h6 Rc2 32.h7 Qg7 33.Qxa7 Rc1+ 34.Kg2 Rxb1 35.Qa8+ Kc7=]

26.Rb1 c5 27.Bc6! Practically best.

[27.Bxb7+ Kxb7 28.Rxb2 Rd5∞]

27...a5?? A losing move.

[27...Qc3 28.Rxb2 c4! followed by ... Qd3 feels like an adequate defence.]

[or the immediate 27...c4!]

28.Rxb2

[28.Qe4?? Rd5! 29.Bxd5 Bxd5 would have been a shock to the system. After 30.Qf4 Qc3 White actually has to be a bit careful in order not to lose. 31.b6! e5 32.Qg4+ Kb7 33.Qd7+ Kxb6 34.Qxd5 Qc1+ 35.Rxc1 bxc1Q+ 36.Kg2 Qh6=]

28...a4 29.Rd2 a3 30.Ra2??

[30.Rxd8+ Qxd8 *(30...Kxd8 31.Bxb7+-)* 31.h6 Qd4 32.Bxb7+ *(* or even stronger is the immediate *32.h7)* 32...Kxb7 33.Qf3++- was a win.]

30...Qc3 . 31.h6

[31.Qe4?! Rd5!! 32.Bxb7+ Kxb7 33.h6 Qd3]

31...Rh8?? Technically a blunder, but both the players' mistakes were excusable. I think in general this whole variation looks practically difficult for Black if they are caught off guard.

[31...Bxc6 32.bxc6 c4 33.Kg2 Qd3 34.Qe1 Qd5+ 35.f3 c3 36.Qb1 Qxc6 37.Qb3 Qc5 38.h7 Qe5 and Black miraculously holds on!]

32.Qd1! Simple and strong. **32...Bxc6 33.bxc6 Qd4 34.Qb3 Qb4 35.Qd3 Rd8 36.Qa6+ Kc7 37.Rxa3 Qb1+ 38.Kg2 Rd1 39.Qa7+ Kxc6 40.Qa8+ Kd6 41.h7**

1-0

D85

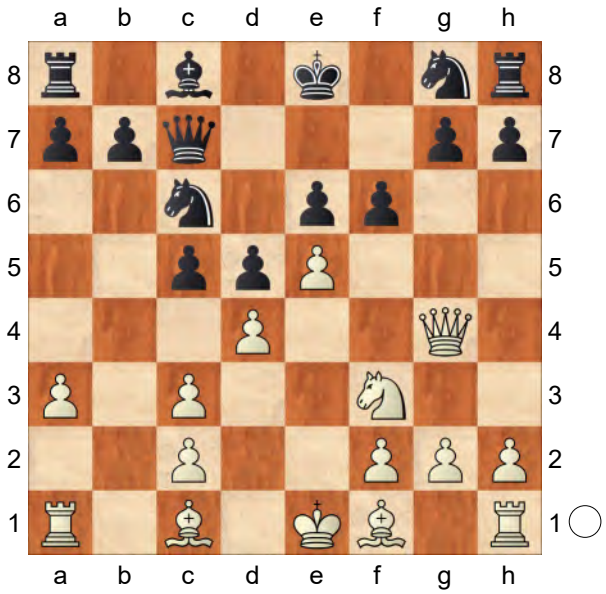
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2750**
■ **Donchenko,Alexander** **2581**
Wch Blitz Almaty (11) 29.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

D85: Exchange Grünfeld: Unusual White 7th moves and lines with 7 Nf3
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bd2 c5 6.e4 0.15/18
[6.dxc5± 0.63/22 feels stronger. Bg7 7.Qb3]
6...Nxc3= 7.Bxc3 Strongly threatening d4-d5. **7...cxd4 8.Bxd4** White has an edge. **8...e5 9.Bc3** aiming for Qd1xd8+. **9...Qxd1+ 10.Rxd1 Nc6 11.Bb5 f6 12.f4 Bd7! 13.Nf3N Be7 14.g3**
[14.Bxc6 simplifies Bxc6 15.fxe5 0-0 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.e5]
14...a6 15.Bc4
[15.Be2 simplifies Bh3 16.fxe5 fxe5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Bxe5 Rf8 19.Bc3]
15...Bg4 16.Ke2 Bc5
[16...Bb4 simplifies 17.Bd5 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Rc8]
17.Bd5 0.02/21
[17.h3± 0.44/19 Nd4+ 18.Bxd4 Bxf3+ Remove Defender 19.Kxf3 Bxd4 20.Rc1]
17...Nd4+ 18.Bxd4 Bxd4 19.Bxb7 Rb8 The position is equal. **20.Bc6+ Ke7 21.b3 Rhc8⇄** Black is fighting back **22.Rc1 Bb2** This pair of bishops is nice. **23.Rc4 Rb6 24.Bd5 Rxc4 25.Bxc4 Rd6 26.h3 Bxf3+ 27.Kxf3** Endgame. KRB-KRB **27...Rd2** Prevents Rh1-h2 **28.Re1 Bd4 29.Re2**
[29.Bxa6 gets mated. Rf2+ *(29...Rxa2 30.Be2=)* 30.Kg4 h5+ *(30...Rxa2 31.Be2∓)* 31.Kh4 Rxf4+ 32.gxf4 Bf2#]
29...Rxe2 30.Kxe2 KB-KB **30...a5 31.Kd3 Bf2 32.fxe5 fxe5 33.g4 h5 34.gxh5 gxh5 35.Bg8 Kd6 36.Kc4 Be1 37.Kb5**
[37.Bf7!? h4□ 38.Kb5=]
37...h4
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless) . Loss on time!?
1-0

C18

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Romanov,Evgeny** **2578**
Dubai op-A 23rd (3) 29.05.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Schmidt,WI: 'Inf 19/209' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f6** seems to push 7...f5 aside.setzt sich inzwischen gegen 7...f5 durch. **8.Nf3** 0.65/20
[8.Bb5+!± 1.23/20 Kf8 9.Nf3]
8...Nc6 1.23/19
[8...c4± 0.65/20]



9.Bb5!±

[9.dxc5?! Nxe5 10.Qh5+ g6=]

9...Qf7 Black is weak on the dark squares

[9...h5 10.Qg3 cxd4 11.exf6 Qxg3 12.hxg3 Nxf6 13.cxd4 Bd7 14.Bd3 0-0-0 15.Bf4 Ne4 16.Ne5 Be8 17.Nxc6 Bxc6 18.Be5 Rd7 19.f3 Nd6 20.g4 h4 21.Kf2 Bb5 22.Rae1 Bxd3 23.cxd3 b6 24.a4 Fier,A (2606)-Willemze,T (2364) Reykjavik op 2023 (6) 1-0]

10.0-0

[10.dxc5 Nge7±]

10...Nge7 White is better.

[10...h5 11.Qg3 Bd7 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.dxc5 Ne7 14.Rb1 Nf5 15.Qf4 g5 16.Qb4 g4 17.Nd4 fxe5 18.Qb7 Rc8 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.Re1 e4 21.Bf4 0-0 22.Qxa7 Ra8 23.Qc7 Be6 24.Qxc6 Rfc8 25.Qd6 Grot,B (1862)-Chemin,J (2040) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early blitz 2023 (4) 1-0]

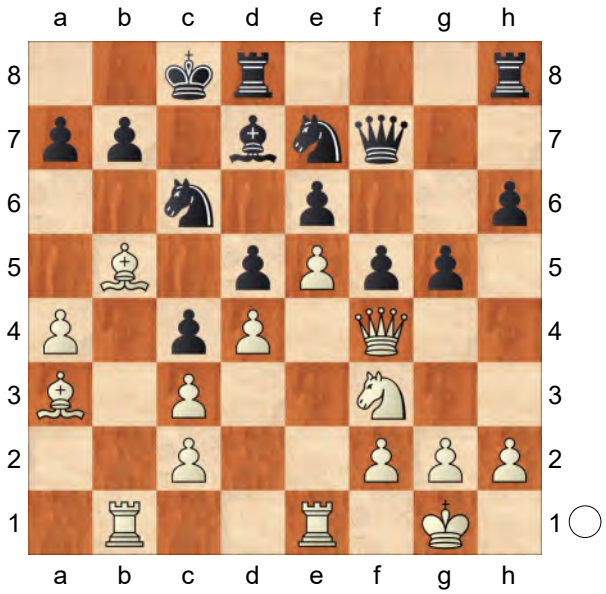
11.a4 **f5N** 1.04/20

[Vorgänger: 11...c4 12.Ba3 Bd7 13.Rfe1 Black must now prevent e5xf6. f5! 14.Qh4 h6 15.Rab1 0.00/23 *(15.Bxc6± 0.65/19 Nxc6 16.Bd6)* 15...0-0-0= 16.Qf4! g5 0.73/20 *(16...Kb8!= 0.00/23* keeps the balance. *)*

(Diagram)

17.Qc1!± Threatens to win with Ba3-d6. g4 Van Dael,S (2319)-Smirnova,E (2184) Pardubice Czech op-A 30th 2019 (9) 0-1]

[11...Bd7± 0.54/23 12.Ba3 f5 13.Qf4 c4 14.Bd6 h6 15.Rab1 a6 16.Bxc6 Bxc6 17.Qc1 Nc8 18.Qa3 Qd7 19.a5 Na7 20.Nh4 Qf7 21.Rb6 g5 22.Nf3 Nb5 23.Qc5 Qd7 24.Qb4 f4 25.Qb2 0-0-0 26.Qb4 g4 Diez Del



Corral,J-Keene,R 18/232 Montilla 1974 ½-½]

12.Qh4± **c4** **13.Ba3** Nf3-g5 is the strong threat. **13...Bd7** **14.Ng5** **Qg6** **15.Rfb1** **Nc8** **16.f4** **h6** **17.Nf3** **Nd8** **18.h3** **Qf7** **19.Bd6** 0.58/21

[White should play 19.Kh2± 1.01/18]

19...Bxb5 **20.axb5** 0.30/19

[20.Rxb5± 0.78/19 Strongly threatening Rb5-c5. Rg8 21.Ba3]

20...Qd7 1.39/19

[20...Nxd6= 0.30/19 remains equal. 21.exd6 Qf6]

21.Bb4 White has more active pieces.

21...Nf7 1.84/23

[21...Rg8± 1.30/21 was worth a try. 22.Kh1 Qxb5 23.Qh5+ g6 24.Qxh6 Qd7]

22.Qh5+- **g5** 3.35/17

[⌓22...Rg8 1.97/20 23.Qg6 Ne7 24.Bxe7 Kxe7]

23.g4

[23.fxg5 hxg5 24.Qg6 Ne7 25.Bxe7 Qxe7=]

23...fxg4 4.85/22

[⌓23...Ne7 3.29/19 24.Bxe7 *(24.fxg5? hxg5-+)* 24...Qxe7 25.gxf5 gxf4]

24.Nh2 White is clearly winning.
[24.hxg4 gxf4 25.Nh4 Rg8+-]
[24.Qxg4 Ne7±]
24...gxf4 25.Nxg4
[25.hxg4 Nb6±]
25...Kd8 26.Nf6
[Less strong is 26.Rf1 Ng5 27.Nf6 *(27.Rxf4 a5+-)* 27...Qg7+-]
26...Qc7 27.h4 Prevents Nf7-g5 **27...b6 28.Kf2 a5 29.bxa6 Na7 30.Rg1**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.47
1-0

B45

□ **Ter Sahakyan,Samvel** **2625**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2689**
Olympiad-44 Chennai (8.3) 06.08.2022
[Ter-Sahakyan, Samvel]

Slow 90min+30sec **1.e4** Ter Sahakyan, Samvel Ter Sahakyan,Samvel Ter Sahakyan,SamvelRound 8 we faced India 1 team,it was not that hard to guess whom I will play on board 3,last couple of years/months Arjun Erigaisi extremely increased his rating and after the olympiad he continued increasing by winning Abu Dhabi Masters,I had some experience playing him,we had 2 classical games and 1 otb blitz game in world blitz championship.In Runde 8 trafen wir auf das Team Indien 1, es war nicht schwer zu erraten, gegen wen ich an Brett 3 spielen würde, in den letzten Jahren/Monaten hat Arjun Erigaisi seine Wertungszahl extrem gesteigert und nach der Olympiade hat er sich weiter gesteigert, indem er das Abu Dhabi Masters gewonnen hat, ich hatte schon einige Erfahrung mit ihm, wir hatten 2 klassische Partien und 1 otb-Blitzpartie bei der Blitzweltmeisterschaft. **1...c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6** While preparing/checking Arjun's games understood that he can play and he plays all possible openings and lines,almost same approach has Nihal Sarin,very hard to guess against them which opening or which line they will play,of course I checked many positions and even the one what he played. Während ich Arjuns Partien vorbereitete/überprüfte, verstand ich, dass er spielen kann und alle möglichen Eröffnungen und Varianten spielt, fast die gleiche Herangehensweise hat Nihal Sarin, es ist sehr schwer, gegen sie zu erraten, welche Eröffnung oder welche Linie sie spielen werden, natürlich habe ich viele Stellungen überprüft und sogar die, die er gespielt hat. **6.Qd3** Very safe approach,but it's easy to explain my decision,previous round I had white pieces against Dominguez and pushed very hard and lost the game, so for this game wanted to have very safe position,and the move has some venom it was played by Caruana against Grischuk and many other top players. Sehr sicherer Ansatz, aber es ist einfach, meine Entscheidung zu erklären, in der vorherigen Runde hatte ich die weißen Figuren gegen Dominguez und drängte sehr stark und verlor die Partie, also wollte ich für diese Partie eine sehr sichere Stellung haben, und der Zug hat etwas Gift, er wurde von Caruana gegen Grischuk und viele andere Topspieler gespielt. Die schwierigste Variante für Schwarz ist 6. nxc6 bxc6 7.e5 nd5 8.ne4 qc7 9.f4 qb6 10.c4 oder 10.a3 aber irgendwie dachte ich, wenn Arjun diese komplexen Stellungen zulässt, dann kennt er sie.

[The most challenging line for black is Die schwierigste Variante für Schwarz ist 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Ne4 Qc7 9.f4 Qb6 10.c4 *(*or oder *10.a3* but somehow I thought if Arjun allows this complex positions then he knows them. aber irgendwie dachte ich, wenn Arjun diese komplexen Stellungen zulässt, dann kennt er sie. *)*]

6...d5 Some other moves are also possible,6...d5 is very concrete and straightforward way to equalize the position. Einige andere Züge sind auch möglich, 6...d5 ist ein sehr konkreter und direkter Weg, die Stellung auszugleichen.

[6...Be7]

7.exd5 Nb4 8.Qg3

[8.Qc4 Nbxd5 9.Bg5 Bb4 10.Bd3 Bd7 11.0-0 Bxc3 12.bxc3 Rc8 13.Qb3 Qb6 14.Qxb6 Nxb6 15.a4 h6 16.Bxf6 gxf6 17.Rfb1 Rc7 18.Nb5 Bxb5 19.axb5 Nc8 20.Ra3 Ke7 21.Rb4 f5 22.g3 Kf6 23.f3 Rd8 24.Rd4 Rdd7 25.Kf2 b6 26.Ke3 Ne7 27.f4 Nd5+ 28.Kd2 Ke7 29.Be2 Rd6 30.c4 Nf6 31.c3 Rd8 32.Bf3 Nd7 33.Ke3 Nc5 34.h3 f6 35.g4 fxg4 36.hxg4 Re8 37.Rd1 Kf8 38.Ra2 Kg7 39.Bc6 Rec8 40.Rd6 Kf7 41.f5 e5 42.Rad2 Ke7 43.Bf3 Rg8 44.Rd1 Rgc8 45.Be2 Kf7 46.Bf3 Ke7 47.R6d5 Na4 48.R1d2 e4 49.Bxe4 Nxc3 50.R5d4 Nxe4 51.Rxe4+ Kf7 52.Rdd4 Re8 53.Kd3 Rxe4 54.Rxe4 Re7 55.Rd4 Ke8 56.Kc3 Rd7 57.Rf4 Rh7 58.Rf1 h5 59.gxh5 Rxh5 60.Ra1 Kd8 61.Rxa7 Kc8 62.Ra6 Kc7 63.c5 Rxf5 64.cxb6+ Kb7 65.Kb4 ½-½ (65) Caruana,F (2842)-Grischuk,A (2777) Yekaterinburg RUS 2021]

8...Bc5 9.a3 Nbxd5 10.Nxd5

[10.Bb5+ While following/checking Harikrishna's game against Vitiugov had time to check the improvements for white.Während ich Harikrishnas Partie gegen Vitiugov verfolgte/checkte, hatte ich Zeit, die Verbesserungen für Weiß zu überprüfen. Kf8 11.Nde2 Bd7 12.Bxd7 Qxd7 13.Nxd5?? Unusual blunder for Hari and for this type of positions.Ungewöhnlicher Fehler für Hari und für diese Art von Positionen. Ne4-+ 14.Qb3 Bxf2+ 15.Kf1 exd5 16.Be3 Qf5 17.Nd4 Qf6 18.Nf3 Bxe3 19.Qxe3 Qxb2 20.Re1 Qxc2 21.Kg1 Qc5 22.Nd4 Rc8 23.h4 h5 24.Kh2 Qd6+ 0-1 (24) Harikrishna,P (2719)-Vitiugov, N (2726) Belgrade 2022]

10...Qxd5 11.Nb5 0-0 12.Nc3 I knew till this move with some ideas and some evaluations. Arjun started taking his time, but after the game he said that he was familiar with the next idea. Ich kannte es bis zu diesem Zug mit einigen Ideen und Einschätzungen. Arjun begann, sich Zeit zu lassen, aber nach der Partie sagte er, dass er mit der nächsten Idee vertraut sei.

[12.Nc7 Qe4+]

12...Qf5

[12...Qh5 13.Be2 Qg6 14.Bd3]

13.Bd3 Qh5 So Arjun is ready to make a draw,but you don't make a short draws in a team competitions with white pieces. Arjun ist also bereit, ein Remis zu machen, aber man macht keine kurzen Remis in einem Mannschaftskampf mit den weißen Figuren. **14.h3** Probably the reason I played 14.h3 to make bg5 ideas work. Wahrscheinlich habe ich deshalb 14.h3

gespielt, damit Lg5-Ideen funktionieren.
[14.f3]
[14.Ne4]
[14.Bg5 White should always be careful of such a tactical ideas. Mit solchen taktischen Ideen sollte Weiß immer vorsichtig sein. Bxf2+]
14...Bd7 15.Bg5 Be7
[15...Bd6 I saw this move and was ready to continue withIch sah diesen Zug und war bereit fortzustezen mit 16.f4 Nd5 17.Nxd5 exd5 18.Bf6 I thought can place my king on d2 and use some weaknesses next to black's king, but as always engine says black is okay. Ich dachte, ich könnte meinen König auf d2 platzieren und einige Schwächen neben dem schwarzen König ausnutzen, aber wie immer sagt die Engine, dass Schwarz okay ist.]
16.Be2 Qg6 17.Bd3 Qh5 Just to be sure Arjun is ready to make a draw, he doesn't have any other choice,and also to be close to time increment after 40 moves. Nur um sicher zu sein, dass Arjun bereit ist, ein Remis zu machen, er hat keine andere Wahl, und auch, um nach 40 Zügen nahe am Zeitinkrement zu sein. **18.0-0 Bc6 19.Be2 Qg6 20.Bd3 Qh5 21.Rae1** I was satisfied with the position I got, Re5 ideas are there, also queen is misplaced on h5, f4-f5 pushes can be there always. Ich war zufrieden mit der Stellung, die ich bekam, Te5 Ideen sind da, auch die Dame ist auf h5 deplatziert, f4-f5 Vorstöße können immer da sein.
[21.Rfe1]
21...Nd5 Just Arjun Erigaisi friends, he calculated everything.Nur Arjun Erigaisi Freunde, er hat alles berechnet.
[21...h6 22.Bf4 Nd7 According to engines black is okay, just stopping all kind of re5 ideas.Laut Engines ist Schwarz in Ordnung, er stoppt einfach alle Arten von Te5-Ideen.]
22.Nxd5
[22.h4]
[22.Ne4 Wanted to play this, but when I saw black has f6 and the queen finds safe square on f7 decided not to continue, but engines are telling us that black might have some small problems. Ich wollte das spielen, aber als ich sah, dass Schwarz f6 hat und die Dame ein sicheres Feld auf f7 findet, entschied ich mich, nicht weiterzumachen, aber die Engines sagen uns, dass Schwarz einige kleine Probleme haben könnte. f6 23.Bd2]
22...Qxg5 Arjun's calculation is very good. Arjuns Berechnung ist sehr gut.
[22...Bxg5 23.Re5 Bxd5 24.Rxg5 Qh6]
23.Re5 Qh4 24.Nxe7+ Qxe7 25.Rfe1
[25.f4 Probably I should have gone for f4 f5 ideas, seems only white can be better,but if you play slowly what eventually I did I got a lot of problems. Wahrscheinlich hätte ich mich für f4-f5-Ideen entscheiden sollen, es scheint, dass nur Weiß besser stehen kann, aber wenn man langsam spielt, was ich schließlich tat, bekam ich eine Menge Probleme.]
25...Rad8 26.Qf4
[26.b4]
26...Rd6 27.R1e3 Start of wrong idea, no chance to create any serious threat. Beginn einer falschen Idee, keine Chance, eine ernsthafte Bedrohung zu schaffen. **27...Rfd8 28.Rh5 g6 29.Qh4 Qxh4 30.Rxh4** Here I was very low on time,decided to trade the queens, but it's just unpleasant for white.Hier hatte

ich sehr wenig Zeit und entschied mich, die Damen zu tauschen, aber es ist einfach unangenehm für Weiß. **30...Kg7**
[30...f5]
31.Rc4 h6 Wasn't sure why he started with this move why not for example f5, probably both are good.Ich war mir nicht sicher, warum er mit diesem Zug begann, warum nicht zum Beispiel f5, wahrscheinlich sind beide gut. **32.f3 f5 33.Kf2 Kf6 34.Rc3 e5**
[34...g5]
35.Rc5 Attacking the pawn and trying to get some activity.Greift den Bauern an und versucht, etwas Aktivität zu bekommen. **35...Re6**
[35...Rd5]
36.Bb5 Bxb5 37.Rxb5 White should be slightly careful, rook on b5 is misplaced.Weiß sollte etwas vorsichtig sein, der Turm auf b5 ist falsch platziert. **37...b6 38.a4 a6 39.Rb4 Rc8 40.Re2**
[40.c3]
40...Rd6 We crossed 40 moves and got extra 30 minutes and I thought the rest will be much easier,but not that day and not against Arjun.Wir schafften 40 Züge und bekamen zusätzliche 30 Minuten, und ich dachte, der Rest würde viel einfacher werden, aber nicht an diesem Tag und nicht gegen Arjun. **41.Ke3** With the idea to play Rd2.Mit der Idee, Rd2 zu spielen. **41...Rc5 42.Rd2 Rdc6 43.c3 Ke7 44.Rd1**
[44.g3]
44...Re6 45.g4 Here I took a lot of time on g4 move. Black is threatening a5 and if Rb3 or Rb5 Rc4 and a pawn is hanging. Of course white can place the rook on a3 and defend the pawn, but didn't want to have such a passive rook. Hier habe ich mir viel Zeit für den Zug g4 genommen, Schwarz droht auf a5 und wenn Tb3 oder Tb5 Tc4 und ein Bauer hängt, kann Weiß natürlich den Turm auf a3 stellen und den Bauern verteidigen, aber ich wollte nicht so einen passiven Turm haben. **45...a5 46.gxf5 gxf5** Arjun instantly took on f5, now white gets another awkward square for the rook.Arjun schlug sofort auf f5, jetzt bekommt Weiß ein weiteres unangenehmes Feld für den Turm.
[46...axb4 47.fxe6 bxc3 48.bxc3 Rxc3+ 49.Kf2 While playing 46.gxf5 calculated this line. According to my calculations white manages to trade a- and b-pawns and gets 3 vs 2 which should be holdable.Wenn ich 46.gxf5 spiele, gelingt es Weiß nach meinen Berechnungen, den a- und b-Bauern zu tauschen und 3 gegen 2 zu erhalten, was haltbar sein sollte.]
47.Rh4
[47.Rb5]
47...Rg6 48.Kf2 Here after 48.kf2 I thought I am very safe despite being low on time,white wants to play rh5 and attack the pawn on f5 if black defends the pawn with king let's say ke6 rd8 ideas are there,but Arjun found most annoying move for me.Hier nach 48.Kf2 dachte ich, dass ich sehr sicher stehe, obwohl ich in Zeitnot bin, Weiß will Rh5 spielen und den Bauern auf f5 angreifen, wenn Schwarz den Bauern mit dem König verteidigt, sagen wir Ke6, sind Td8 Ideen sind da, aber Arjun fand den nervigsten Zug für mich. **48...Ke6 49.Rd8 Rd5** Now if white trades the rooks I am not sure I can free my rook on h4 easily.Wenn Weiß nun die Türme tauscht, bin ich nicht sicher, ob ich meinen Turm auf h4 leicht befreien kann. **50.Rh8 Rd2+ 51.Ke3 Rxb2 52.R4xh6 f4+ 53.Kd3** The only move, otherwise if

53.Ke4 Re2+wins.Der einzige Zug, falls 53 Ke4 Te2+ und gewinnt. **53...Rxh6 54.Rxh6+ Kf5 55.Rh5+ Kf6 56.Rh6+ Kf5**
[56...Kg5 57.Rh8 Somehow white is in time to attack black's e5 pawn, whenever Irgendwie kommt Weiß rechtzeitig, um den schwarzen e5-Bauern anzugreifen, wann immer Rf2 58.Ke4 Re2+ 59.Kd5]
57.Rh5+ Ke6 58.Rh6+ Kd5 59.c4+
[59.h4]
59...Kc5 60.Re6 Rb3+ 61.Ke4 Re3+ 62.Kf5 And now we start collecting many pawns and enter a drawish endgame. Und jetzt fangen wir an, viele Bauern zu sammeln und kommen in ein remisliches Endspiel. **62...Kxc4**
[62...Rxf3 63.Rxe5+]
63.Rxb6 Rxf3 64.Kxe5 Rxh3 65.Kxf4 Ra3 66.Rb8 Kc3 67.Ke3 Rxa4 68.Rc8+ Kb2
[68...Rc4 69.Rxc4+ Kxc4 70.Kd2 Kb3 71.Kc1]
69.Ra8 Ra3+ 70.Kd2 a4 71.Ra7 Kb1 72.Ra8 Ra2+ 73.Kd1 a3 74.Ra7 Ra1 75.Rb7+ Ka2+ 76.Kc2 Rh1 77.Rc7 Rh2+ 78.Kc1 Ka1 79.Rc3 a2 80.Rc8 Rh1+ 81.Kc2 Rh2+ 82.Kc1 Rg2 83.Rc7 Rb2 84.Rc8
½-½

B13
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Lenderman,Aleksandr** **2572**
PRO League Prelim rapid (5.2) 17.03.23
[Richard Palliser]

Richard Palliser,MH: 'B13: Caro-Kann: Exchange Variation and Panov-Botvinnik Attack
' **1.d4 d5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3 cxd4 5.exd4 a6**
[Sensibly ruling out Nb5 ideas once and for all, although this is far from obligatory, with Richard Palliser,MH: 'Sensibly ruling out Nb5 ideas once and for all, although this is far from obligatory, with' 5...Bg4 one decent alternative - see the Archive.]
6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Ne5 Bd7! A solid and important defensive idea, preventing any damage to Black's structure after an exchange on c6. Richard Palliser,MH: 'A solid and important defensive idea, preventing any damage to Black's structure after an exchange on c6. 7...Bd7 is better than 7...e6. 7...Ld7 ist besser als 7... e6.'7...Bd7 is better than 7...e6. 7...Ld7 ist besser als 7...e6. **8.g4!** And Andrey Esipenko's pawn sacrifice remains a dangerous counter, as well as a move which I see was recommended in Simon Williams's 'Opening Repertoire: The Jobava London System'. Richard Palliser,MH: 'And Andrey Esipenko's pawn sacrifice remains a dangerous counter, as well as a move which I see was recommended in Simon Williams's 'Opening Repertoire: The Jobava London System'. The position is equal.'
8...e6
[Just a quick reminder that the pawn is largely poisoned, or at least that Richard Palliser,MH: 'Just a quick reminder that the pawn is largely poisoned, or at least that' 8...Nxe5 9.dxe5 Nxg4 10.Rg1! offers White promising compensation, as shown by Williams.]
9.g5 Ng8!?
[We've previously seen that 9...Nxe5 10.Bxe5 Ng8 11.h4 Ne7 12.Qe2 Nc6 was preferred in Erigaisi-Bluebaum, Internet (rapid) 2022,

where White should likely have settled for Richard Palliser,MH: 'was preferred in Erigaisi-Bluebaum, Internet (rapid) 2022, where White should likely have settled for' 13.0-0-0 when after Richard Palliser,MH: '!' Nxe5 14.Qxe5 Qb8 15.Qe3 Qd6 16.Bd3 0-0-0 17.f4 his extra space offsets Black's solid position and bishop-pair. Richard Palliser,MH: 'his extra space offsets Black's solid position and bishop-pair.']

10.Nxc6 Bxc6 11.Qf3!?N

[Predecessor: A novelty, 11.h4 Bd6 12.Qd2 -0.08/22 having been preferred in Sadhwani-Firouzja, Airthings (rapid) 2023, where the engines ask why not Richard Palliser, MH: 'having been preferred in Sadhwani-Firouzja, Airthings (rapid) 2023, where the engines ask why not' *(12.Bxd6* 0.28/21 deserves consideration. *Qxd6 13.Qf3)*

A) Richard Palliser,MH: ' Black should try' 12...h5!? -0.08/22 , since Richard Palliser,MH: '=' 13.gxh6 -0.64/23 *(13.Bxd6=* 0.08/21 *Qxd6 14.Bd3)* 13...Bxf4 Richard Palliser,MH: ' ∓' 14.Qxf4 Rxh6 is certainly pretty pleasant for Black.;

B) 12...Ne7 0.49/21 13.Bd3 Qc7 14.Ne2 0.01/21 *(14.Bxd6±* 0.51/22 *Qxd6 15.0-0-0)* 14...Bxf4 Richard Palliser,MH: '=' 15.Qxf4 Qxf4 16.Nxf4 Kd7 17.Kd2 ½-½ (39) Sadhwani,R (2627)-Firouzja,A (2785) Chess.com INT 2023 Richard Palliser,MH: '½-½ (39) Sadhwani,R (2627)-Firouzja,A (2785) Chess.com INT 2023']

11...Bd6 12.0-0-0 -0.35/22

[12.h4= 0.23/20]

12...Ne7 0.51/20

[Natural development, but now White is able to take control. As such, here too touching the h-pawn may well be more critical: Richard Palliser,MH: 'Natural development, but now White is able to take control. As such, here too touching the h-pawn may well be more critical:' 12...h6!? -0.35/22 Richard Palliser,MH: ' ∓' 13.g6!? is possibly what Erigaisi intended, when Richard Palliser,MH: 'is possibly what Erigaisi intended, when' fxg6 Richard Palliser,MH: ' Strongly threatening ...Qd8-f6.' 14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.Bh3 offers White some compensation, although like the engines I have my doubts as to the exact depth of it. Richard Palliser, MH: 'offers White some compensation, although like the engines I have my doubts as to the exact depth of it.']

13.Bd3 Keeping Black's knight out of f5 ahead of preparing to thematically expand with h4-h5. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Keeping Black's knight out of f5 ahead of preparing to thematically expand with h4-h5.' **13...Qc7** 0.71/21

[13...b5!? 0.27/23 wouldn't have been in keeping with Lenderman's largely solid style, but after Richard Palliser, MH: '=' 'wouldn't have been in keeping with Lenderman's largely solid style, but after' 14.h4 b4 15.Ne2 Bb5 Black would at least have managed to acquire a bit of counterplay. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Black would at least have managed to acquire a bit of counterplay.']

14.Bxd6 Richard Palliser,MH: '±'

14...Qxd6 15.h4 g6 1.03/22

[15...h6± 0.65/21]

16.Rde1

[16.h5! was likely more accurate as e5? 2.30/23 *(16...Rf8± 0.99/21* is a better defense. *17.Kb1 0-0-0)* 17.Qg3 is nothing to worry about. Richard Palliser,MH: 'is nothing to worry about.']

16...Rf8 1.08/22

[16...h5!? 0.69/22 pretty much forces White into Richard Palliser,MH: ' ±' 17.gxh6 Rxh6 , but this can't be more than slightly worse for Black, as with 18.h5 0.36/21 *(18.Kb1± 0.82/21)* 18...gxh5 Richard Palliser,MH: '±' 19.Re5 h4 .]

17.h5 White is now fully on track and Black's position already quite unpleasant due to his bad bishop and lack of both space and counterplay. Richard Palliser,MH: 'White is now fully on track and Black's position already quite unpleasant due to his bad bishop and lack of both space and counterplay. White is much more active.' **17...0-0-0 18.Kb1** Erigaisi is in no rush, so calmly makes a small improvement to his position, one which tempts Lenderman into a big decision. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Erigaisi is in no rush, so calmly makes a small improvement to his position, one which tempts Lenderman into a big decision.' **18...Nf5?! 19.Bxf5! exf5 20.hxg6**

[20.Re5 Rde8 21.Rhe1 also looks like a clear advantage to me, Richard Palliser,MH: 'also looks like a clear advantage to me,']

[and the engines even rather like his chances after the unhurried Richard Palliser,MH: 'and the engines even rather like his chances after the unhurried' 20.b3!? and Kb2.]

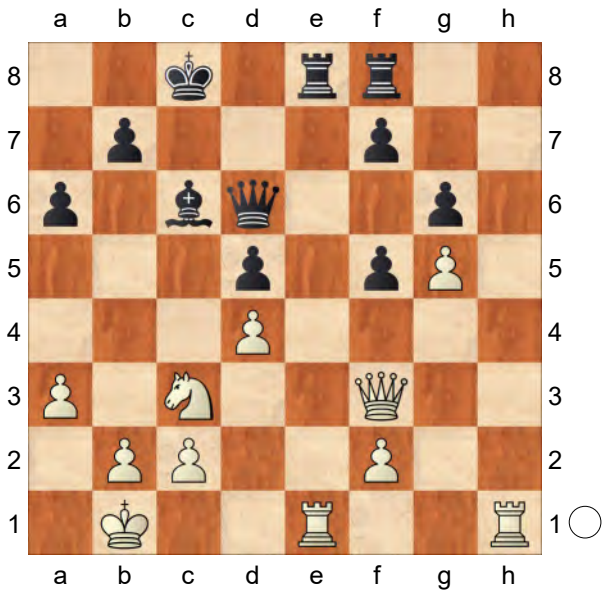
20...hxg6 21.a3

[I'd still prefer to go Richard Palliser, MH: 'I'd still prefer to go' 21.Re5! in part because now f6?! 22.gxf6 Qxf6 23.a4!? 0.68/20 retains a clear plus, and if *(23.Ne2± 1.26/20)* 23...g5!? 1.40/20 *(23...Rde8± 0.68/20)* 24.Rg1 Rde8 25.Rge1 .]

21...Rde8 1.14/22 Richard Palliser,MH: '

[Seeking salvation through exchanges. Black might also have done so with 21...f6!? 22.gxf6 *(22.Reg1!? fxg5 23.Rxg5 Rh8* Richard Palliser,MH: ' Inhibits Rh1-h6.' *24.Rhg1 Be8 25.Ne2* is how the engines prefer to retain the pressure Richard Palliser, MH: 'is how the engines prefer to retain the pressure'*)* 22...Qxf6 23.Re5 Rde8 , and if 24.Rhe1 Qh4! .]

[Better is 21...Rfe8 0.78/24]



' **22.Rxe8+!** Erigaisi finds the right way to retain control and make progress. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Erigaisi finds the right way to retain control and make progress.' **22...Rxe8 23.Rh7 Re7** Richard Palliser,MH: ' Black is weak on the dark squares' **24.Kc1?** -0.01/23

[A seemingly natural choice, but it transpires that it's too early to

centralise the king. As such, White should have improved his pieces with Richard Palliser,MH: 'A seemingly natural choice, but it transpires that it's too early to centralise the king. As such, White should have improved his pieces with' 24.Na2 Re1+ 1.05/23 *(24...f6!± 0.66/20 25.Rxe7 Qxe7)* 25.Nc1 Richard Palliser,MH: ' ±' Qe7 26.Qf4 ,]

[or with 24.Rh8+ 0.95/24 Richard Palliser,MH: ' ±' Kd7 25.Ka2!? , thereby keeping Black largely quite bottled up. Richard Palliser,MH: ', thereby keeping Black largely quite bottled up.']

24...Kb8?! 0.48/23

[This is hardly terrible, but 24...f6! -0.01/23 Richard Palliser,MH: '=' 25.Rxe7 *(25.Rh8+ Kd7 26.gxf6 Qxf6* hits the rook and d4*; 25.Rh6 fxg5)* 25...Qxe7 26.gxf6 Qxf6

A) or 27.Nxd5 Qxd4 *(27...Qd8!? 28.c4□ Bxd5 29.cxd5 Qd6±)*;

B) 27.Ne2 g5 would appear to completely equalise. Richard Palliser,MH: 'would appear to completely equalise. Inhibits Ne2-f4. ']

25.Kd2 Ka7 26.Qg3! Regaining a fair degree of control. **26...Qd8** 0.81/24

[Likewise, 26...Qe6 Richard Palliser, MH: ' White must now prevent ...Qe6-e1+.'

A) 27.Qe5 Qd7 *(27...Qxe5 28.dxe5 f4 29.Kd3±)*;

B) 27.f4!? Re8 28.Rh2 would leave Black suffering, if still with definite chances to hold. Richard Palliser,MH: 'would leave Black suffering, if still with definite chances to hold.']

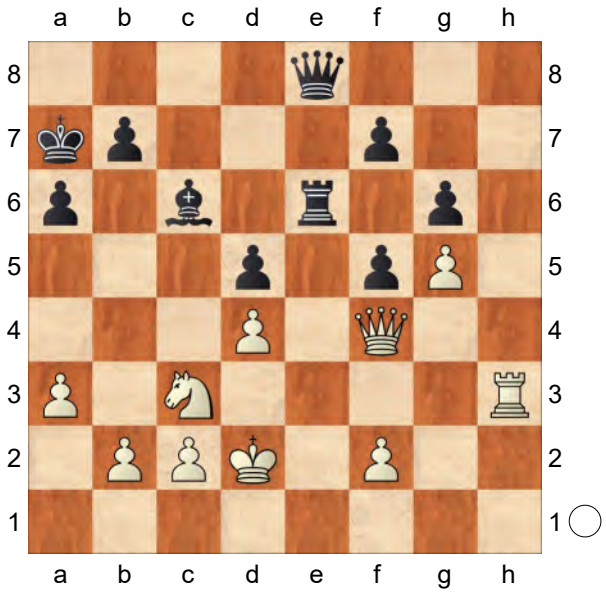
27.Qf4 Qe8?!

[Once again, 27...f6! was a much better defensive try. Richard Palliser, MH: 'was a much better defensive try. ']

28.Rh3! Now an invasion on e1 will lead nowhere and White can remove the rooks. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Now an invasion on e1 will lead nowhere and White can remove the rooks.' **28...Re6** 1.16/23 Richard Palliser,MH: '

[28...Qd8!? was likely a better defensive approach, based on the point Richard Palliser,MH: 'was likely a better defensive approach, based on the point' 29.Re3 Rxe3 30.Qxe3 0.34/23 *(*White should play *30.fxe3±* 0.84/25 *Qe7 31.Kd1)* 30...f6 . Richard Palliser,MH: '!']

[28...Rd7± 0.69/24]



' **29.Re3** Richard Palliser,MH: '!' **29...Rxe3 30.Qxe3** Richard Palliser,MH: 'Endgame. KQB-KQN' **30...Qh8** 1.39/24

[⌓30...Qd8 1.01/23]

31.b3! Creating a safe spot for the king if needed and also preparing to expand on the queenside. Matters are back to being most unpleasant for Black.

Richard Palliser,MH: 'Creating a safe spot for the king if needed and also preparing to expand on the queenside. Matters are back to being most unpleasant for Black.' **31...Qf8 32.a4 Qd8 33.Ne2!** It's high time to improve the knight and meanwhile Black remains rather hampered by his bad bishop. Richard Palliser,MH: 'It's high time to improve the knight and meanwhile Black remains rather hampered by his bad bishop.' **33...Qa5+** 1.78/25

[33...Bd7± 1.17/20 was necessary. 34.Qg3 Qh8]

34.Kd1 Richard Palliser,MH: '+-'

34...Qd8 Richard Palliser,MH: ' Wards off Qe3-e7' **35.Kc1** 1.29/22

[35.Nc1+- 1.65/23]

35...Qa5 1.86/24

[35...f6± 1.29/22]

36.Nf4 Qd8 37.Nd3 An ideal spot for the knight as Erigaisi continues to give a masterclass in how to play this type of queen and good knight against queen and bad bishop endgame. Richard Palliser,MH: 'An ideal spot for the knight as Erigaisi continues to give a masterclass in how to play this type of queen and good knight against queen and bad bishop endgame.' **37...Bd7 38.f4 Be6** 1.97/27

[38...Be8± 1.51/26 39.Qe1 a5]

39.Nc5 Bc8 40.Qe5 Beginning to invade. **40...b6** 2.18/25

[⌓40...Be6 1.63/26 41.Nxe6 fxe6 42.Qxe6 Qc7]

41.Nd3 Be6

[41...a5!? 42.Qf6! is a big call, but after Qxf6 43.gxf6 Richard Palliser, MH: ' aiming for Nd3-e5.' Be6 44.Ne5 Kb7 3.47/33 Richard Palliser,MH: ' Prevents Ne5-c6.' 45.Kd2 Richard Palliser,MH: '+-' Kc7 46.c4 2.02/26 *(⌓46.Kd3* 3.37/29 *)* 46...Kd6 Richard Palliser,MH: '+-' 47.Kd3 it's zugzwang.]

42.a5!? A tempting move as time ran low, although objectively speaking White should probably have preferred to reroute his queen and free e5 for the knight. Richard Palliser,MH: 'A tempting move as time ran low, although objectively speaking White should probably have preferred to reroute his queen and free e5 for the knight. Deflection' **42...bxa5 43.Nc5** 1.06/27

[⌓43.Kb2 1.55/25]

43...Qb6 2.14/28

[43...Bc8± 1.06/27 44.Nd3 a4]

44.Kb2 Qc6 45.Nxe6! Shades of Fischer-Petrosian as White gives up his beautiful knight to simplify favourably. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Shades of Fischer-Petrosian as White gives up his beautiful knight to simplify favourably.' **45...fxe6?** 5.74/24 Richard Palliser,MH: ' KQ-KQ'

[Losing in straightforward fashion, although in the long run after Richard Palliser,MH: 'Losing in straightforward fashion, although in the long run after' 45...Qxe6 1.86/28 Richard Palliser, MH: ' is a better chance.' 46.Qc7+! *(46.Qxe6?* 0.01/35 Richard Palliser, MH: '46.Qe5-c7+ 1.80' *fxe6 47.Ka3 Kb7! 48.Ka4 Kb6 49.c3 Kc6 50.Kxa5 Kb7* is only a draw it seems*)* 46...Ka8 47.Ka3! 1.17/24 White would surely have prevailed in any case. *(47.Qxa5+-* 2.06/25 *Kb7 48.Qb4+ Kc7 49.Qf8)*]

46.Qg7+ Kb6 9.44/25

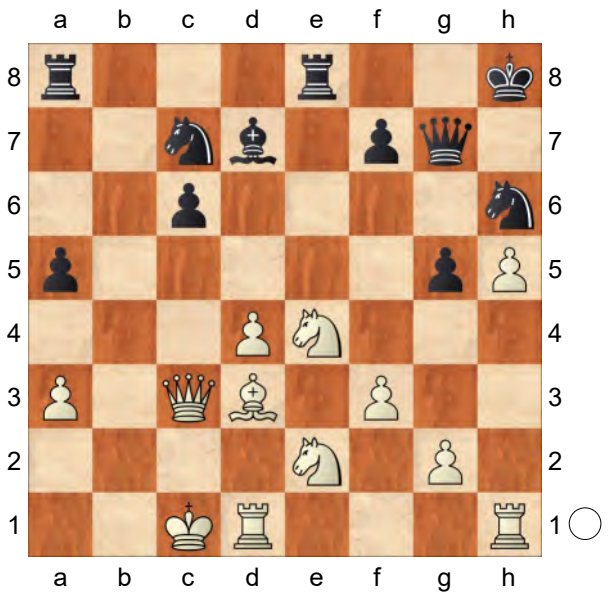
[⌓46...Qb7 4.41/24 47.Qxg6 a4 48.Qxe6 axb3 49.cxb3 *(49.Qxf5 bxc2+ 50.Kxc2 Qb5+-)* 49...Qc7 50.Qxf5 a5]

47.Qxg6 The protected g-pawn's a winner and Black's counterplay is now a classic case of too little, too late. Richard Palliser,MH: 'The protected g-pawn's a winner and Black's counterplay is now a classic case of too little, too late.' **47...a4 48.Qg8!** Black's king is actually not so happy here and, indeed, the finish comes sooner than you might have expected. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Black's king is actually not so happy here and, indeed, the finish comes sooner than you might have expected. Hoping for Qg8-b8+.' **48...a3+ 49.Kxa3!** Richard Palliser,MH: ' Qg8-b8+ is the strong threat.' **49...Qxc2? 50.Qb8+ Ka5 51.b4#** Richard Palliser,MH: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.57'
1-0

D35

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Lagno,Kateryna** **2560**
Astana Satty Zhuldyz Blitz (11) 24.04.23
[Kitty Kat]

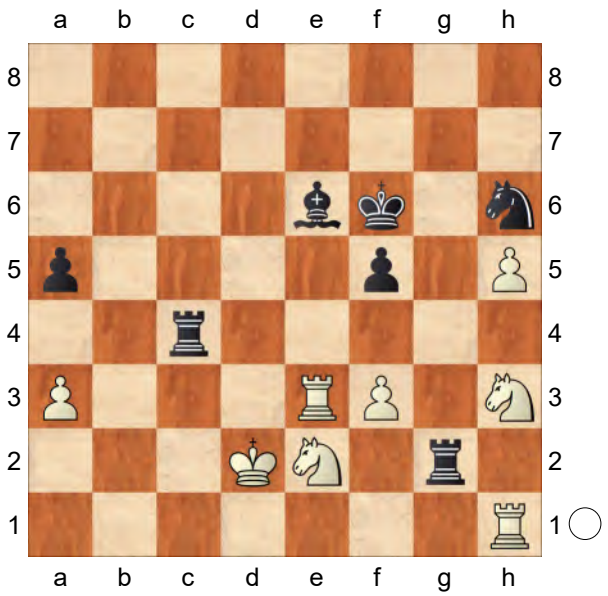
D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation
1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 0-0 7.Bd3 Re8 8.Nge2 c6 9.Qc2
[9.0-0 a5 10.a3 Nbd7 11.h3 b5 12.Bf4 Bf8 13.Rc1 Qb6 14.a4 b4 15.Nb1 Ba6 16.Bxa6 Qxa6 17.Nd2 c5 18.dxc5 Nxc5 19.Nd4 Rac8 20.N2b3 Nxa4 21.Rxc8 Rxc8 22.Qa1 Nc5 23.Qxa5 Qxa5 Nepomniachtchi,I (2767)-Sindarov,J (2674) FIDE World Rapid Team 2024 (2.1) ½-½]
9...g6 10.Nf4N White has an edge.
[10.Ng3 a5 11.0-0 Na6 12.Bxa6 Rxa6 13.Rae1 Ra8 14.f3 b5 15.Nce2 Bd7 16.Nf4 Rc8 17.Nd3 Be6 18.b3 Nd7 19.Bxe7 Qxe7 20.Rc1 h5 21.Rfe1 h4 22.Nh1 Bf5 23.Nhf2 h3 24.g4 Bxd3 6.♘a3 cd4 7. cd4 ♗d7 (2701)-Musielak,M (2560) Petroff Memorial 2000 (11) 1-0]
10...a5 0.44/20
[10...h6= -0.04/20 11.Bxf6 *(11.Bxh6 Ng4∓)* 11...Bxf6]
11.h4± Ng4 0.76/20
[11...Na6!= 0.23/20]
12.Bxe7± Qxe7 13.h5 Black must now prevent h5xg6. **13...g5**
[13...Nxf2? 14.Qxf2 Qxe3+ 15.Qxe3 Rxe3+ 16.Kd2+-]
14.Bxh7+ Kh8 15.Nfe2 Na6 16.a3! Nh6 1.41/21
[16...Qf6± 0.69/21 17.Nd1 Bd7 *(17...c5 18.dxc5 Bd7 19.Bd3±)*]
17.Bd3 b5 18.Ng3 Qf6 2.10/21
[18...Qe6 1.64/20 was necessary. 19.Nce2 Bb7]
19.Nce2 Bd7 20.e4 dxe4 1.86/21
[20...c5± 1.37/21]
21.Nxe4 Qg7 22.0-0-0 1.20/19
[22.Qd2+- 1.93/19]
22...b4 23.Qd2
[23.Nd6 Red8±]
23...bxa3 24.bxa3
[24.Qxa5 a2 25.Kd2 f5∓]
24...Qf8 25.Qc3
[25.Qxa5 Ng4±]
[25.Qxg5?! Qxa3+ 26.Kd2 Ng4±]
25...Qg7 1.95/19 Wards off Ne4-f6
[25...f6± 1.47/20 26.N2g3 *(26.Qxa5 Ng4±; 26.d5 Rxe4 27.Bxe4 cxd5±)* 26...Nc7]
26.f3 0.89/20
[26.Qxa5+- 1.95/19 Be6 27.Bxa6 *(27.Qxg5 Qxg5+ 28.Nxg5 Bd5+-)*]
26...Nc7



27.d5 0.60/23 **Nxd5 28.Qxg7+ Kxg7 29.Nxg5 f5** 1.78/21 Prevents Ng5-e4.
[29...Rad8± 1.07/21 was worth a try.]
30.Nd4 1.16/22
[30.Bc4+- 1.78/21]
30...Kf6 31.Nh3 White is more active.
31...Rg8 1.60/20
[⌓31...Rab8 0.87/19]
32.Rd2 c5 2.79/22
[32...Nf7 1.71/19 is a better defense. 33.Bc4 Rgc8 34.Bxd5 cxd5+ 35.Kb1 Rab8+ 36.Ka2 Nd6]
33.Ne2+- c4 3.31/24
[⌓33...Be6 2.11/20 34.Bc4 Nc7]
34.Bxc4 Rac8 35.Rxd5 Rxc4+ 36.Kd2 Be6 37.Rd6 Ke5 Prevents Ne2-f4.
38.Rd3 Rxg2 39.Re3+ Kf6

(Diagram)

40.Rxe6+! 1.04/22 **Kxe6± 41.Kd3 Rxe2 42.Kxc4** Endgame. KRN-KRN
42...Kf6 1.77/22
[42...Ke5± 0.87/22]
43.Kb5 0.32/25
[White should try 43.Rg1+- 1.77/22 Rg1-g6+ would now be deadly. Rh2 44.Rg6+ Ke7 45.Rg3 *(45.Nf4 Rh4=)*]



43...Re5+ 44.Ka4 Re3 45.f4 0.01/24
[45.Kxa5 Rxa3+ 46.Kb5 Rxf3∓]
[45.Rb1± 0.72/24 aiming for Rb1-b6+. Rxf3 46.Rb6+ Ke5 47.Rb5+ *(47.Rxh6 Rxh3 48.Kxa5 Rxa3+ 49.Kb6 Rb3+ 50.Kc5 Rc3+ 51.Kb4 Rc8=)* 47...Kd4 48.Ng5]
45...Ng4 1.18/23
[45...Rf3= 0.01/24 keeps the balance.]
46.Ng5! Threatens to win with Rh1-b1!
[But not 46.Kxa5?! Rxa3+ 47.Kb6 Ra8=]
46...Nh6? 6.05/31 A mistake that costs the game.
[46...Kg7± 1.13/24]
47.Rc1 White is clearly winning.
47...Ng4 48.Rc6+
[48.Kxa5 Rxa3+ 49.Kb4 Rd3±]
48...Ke7 49.h6
[49.Kxa5 Rxa3+ 50.Kb4 Rd3±]
49...Nf6 50.h7 Nxh7 51.Rc7+ Kd6 52.Rxh7 Kc5 7.91/28
[⌓52...Rd3 5.15/29 53.Kxa5 Rxa3+ 54.Kb4 Ra1 55.Rh6+ Ke7 56.Re6+ Kf8 57.Rf6+ Kg7]
53.Rc7+

[53.Kxa5? Rxa3#]

53...Kd4 54.Rf7 Kc3 55.Rxf5 Kb2 56.Kxa5

Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/ Black=0.51

1-0

E14

□ **Aravindh,Chithambaram VR 2606**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2681**

MPL Indian Chess Tour #2 rapid (3.8)

[John Emms,Kitty Kat]

E14: Queen's Indian: Classical Variation (4 e3)

1.d4 e6

[1...Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.e3 Bb7 5.Bd3 c5 6.0-0 is the traditional move order.]

2.Nf3 c5 3.e3

[3.g3 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Qb6 5.Bg2 Bc5 6.e3 Nc6 7.Nb3 Be7 8.e4 Nf6 9.Nc3 d6 10.0-0 0-0 11.Qe2 Rd8 12.a4 Qc7 13.Bf4 Bd7 14.Rfd1 a6 15.a5 Ne5 16.Rd4 Rac8 17.Bf1 Bc6 3.e5 ♗f5 4.♘c3 ♕b6_2673 (2367)-Lea,P (2690) 48/294 Moscow 1989 0-1]

3...Nf6 The e3 variation of the Queen's Indian is often reached via the Colle Opening. **4.Bd3N**

[4.b3 Nc6 5.Bb2 d5 6.Nbd2 Bd6 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 b6 9.c4 Bb7 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Rc1 Qe7 12.Qc2 Nb4 13.Qb1 Ne4 14.dxc5 bxc5 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Ne1 Rad8 17.g3 Bb8 18.a3 Nc6 9.♖e1 ♗f5 10.♕b3_69099 (2400)-Putzbach,G (2294) CCLA ch-1 8586 1985 (4) 1-0]

[4.c4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.a3 d5 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Bb5 Bd7 9.Nc3 a6 10.Ba4 Bd6 11.h3 0-0 12.0-0 Rc8 13.Nf3 Be6 14.Qd3 b5 15.Bc2 d4 16.Ne4 Nxe4 17.Qxe4 g6 18.exd4 Bf5 Foster,D (2215)-1.c4 f5/ 4.♗g2 d5 (2260) USSR (ch) 53/17 1991 1-0]

[4.g3 b6 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.0-0 Be7 7.b3 0-0 8.Bb2 d6 9.c4 Nbd7 10.Nbd2 cxd4 11.exd4 d5 12.Qe2 Rc8 13.Rac1 Rc7 14.Rfe1 Qa8 15.a3 Rfc8 16.Ne5 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Nd7 18.cxd5 Rxc1 5.Bg5 dc4 6.e4 (2403)-Vangsgaard,C (2604) corr_164709 1919 (2) 0-1]

4...b6 5.0-0 Bb7 6.c4! cxd4

[The main line here is 6...Be7 7.Nc3 cxd4 8.exd4 d5 0.84/21 and now *(8...0-0± 0.33/18)* 9.cxd5± Nxd5 10.Ne5! 0-0 11.Qg4! is the most challenging - see games in the archives.]

[Against 6...g6 0.97/20 6...d5 0.24 the pawn sacrifice 7.d5! exd5 8.cxd5 Bxd5 9.e4! has scored well for White.]

7.exd4 d5 Erigaisi immediately goes for the IQP, but clearly there's some danger in doing so before developing the dark-squared bishop.

[7...Be7 8.Nc3 transposes to 6...Be7, above.]

8.cxd5! As usual in this line, capturing on d5 causes more problems for Black than allowing an exchange on c4.

[8.Nc3 And now cxd5 would win. dxc4 9.Bxc4 Hoping for Bb5+. Be7 looks like a typical IQP and one that's okay for Black.]

8...Nxd5 9.Nc3 0.10/20

[9.Ne5! is a logical way to punish a premature ...d5. Black's slow kingside development means that he is vulnerable to quick attacks, including Bb5+, Qa4+, Qf3 and Qh5.

A) 9...Be7? 1.92/23 9...Nc6 0.12

10.Bb5+! 1.44/22 *(10.Qh5+- 1.92/23 g6 11.Bb5+ Kf8 12.Qf3)*;
B) 9...Nc6 10.Bb5 Qc7 11.Qa4! Rc8 12.Bd2! intends Rc1 and obliges Black to give up a pawn with a6 13.Bxc6+ Bxc6 14.Qxa6;
C) 9...Nd7? 3.64/21 9...a6 0.67 10.Bb5;
D) 9...a6 Dodges Bb5+
D1) 10.Nc3 Qf3 would now be deadly. Nd7 11.Re1?! -0.25/18 was too slow and fine for Black. *(11.Qf3!?; 11.Qf3± 0.65/21 N7f6 12.Qg3)* 11...Nxe5!= 12.dxe5 -0.44/20 *(12.Rxe5= -0.02/20 Nf6 13.Qc2)* 12...Nxc3∓ 13.bxc3 Qd5 Suvrajit,S-Erigaisi,A/ Chess.com 2020 - perhaps this game encouraged Erigaisi to repeat 7...d5.;
D2) 10.Qf3!? Qc7 11.Be4! Nc6 12.Nxc6! Bxc6 13.Nc3 Rd8 14.Bg5 *(14.Bxd5!? Bxd5 15.Bf4!)* 14...Be7 15.Bxd5 Bxd5 16.Nxd5 Rxd5 17.Rac1 Qb8 18.Bxe7 Kxe7 19.Qa3+ looked dangerous for Black in Chiburdanidze,M-Ciuksyte,D/ Moscow 2001, albeit playable after Kf6 20.Qxa6 Rhd8]
[9.Ne5± 0.69/21 Bd6 10.Qa4+ Kf8 11.Na3]

9...Nxc3?! 0.73/20
[Black should play 9...Be7! transposing to 6...Be7.]
[9...Be7= 0.10/20]

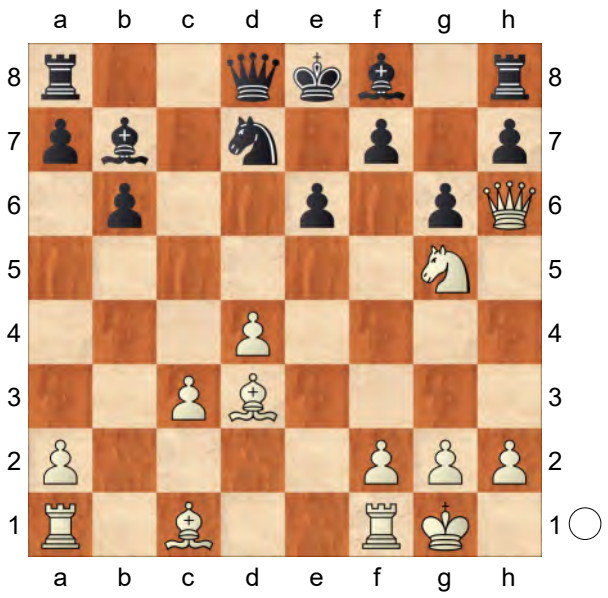
10.bxc3± This exchange on c3 is a common theme in similar positions (there are some lines in the Semi-Tarrasch, 2 c4 Caro-Kann and c3 Sicilian). Here, however, White's extra kingside development (Bd3, 0-0) benefits him far more than Black's extra ...b6 and ... Bb7. **10...Nd7**
[10...Qc7? 1.50/20 10...Be7 0.45 to attack the c3-pawn is another typical idea, but when White has already castled he can ignore the attack. 11.Re1! *(11.Bd2 0.00/20 11.Re1 1.22 Nd7 12.Re1* Threatens to win with Ng5. *Bd6* is what Black is aiming for, and this would be perfectly okay for him *)* 11...Qxc3? 4.18/21 *(11...Nd7? 2.87/20 11...Bd6 1.15 12.Ng5!; 11...Bd6± 1.40/21* was worth a try.*)* 12.Bb5+!+- and White's attack will be decisive. For example, Bc6 13.Bxc6+ Nxc6 *(13...Qxc6* 5.83/19 13...Nxc6 3.65 *14.d5!)* 14.d5! Qxa1? 7.49/23 *(14...Be7* 3.58/20 *15.Bd2 Qc4)* 15.dxc6+- Rd8 Against Qd7+ 16.Qa4 Intending c7+ and mate. Qc3 17.c7+ Rd7 18.Bf4!]
[10...Be7 11.Ne5! 0-0! 12.Qg4! looks promising for White.]

11.Ng5! A key move and the only one to seriously threaten Black. White starts the attack before Black has a chance to organise. Ideas include Qh5 and Re1 intending possible captures on e6.
[After 11.Re1 Be7! Black will reach an acceptable position. Inhibits Ng5.]

11...Qc7? 2.78/20
[Black's best chance to stay in the game is to eliminate the knight: 11...Be7! 12.Qh5
A) 12...g6 1.68/20 12...Bxg5 0.75 13.Qh6 Strongly threatening Re1. Bf8 2.28/20 *(13...Qc7± 1.34/20)*

(Diagram)

14.Qh3!+- aiming for Re1! Bg7? 5.55/20 *(14...Rc8* 2.06/18 *15.Bxg6 hxg6 16.Qxh8 Qf6)* 15.Re1! and Nxe6 is happening;



B) 12...Bxg5 13.Bxg5 Nf6 14.Qh3 White enjoys a considerable advantage here, but there's no immediate breakthrough and Black has chances to defend.]

[11...Be7± 0.76/22 was necessary. 12.Qh5 *(12.Nxh7? g6-+)* 12...Bxg5 13.Qxg5 *(13.Bxg5 Nf6±)* 13...Qxg5 14.Bxg5 Rc8]

12.Qh5? 0.54/22

[12.Re1! is even stronger. For example,. Black must now prevent Nxe6!

A) 12...Be7? 4.00/21 12...Qxc3 2.39 13.Rxe6! fxe6? 9.09/23 *(13...Qxc3* 3.54/20 *14.Re3 0-0-0)* 14.Nxe6+- White wants to mate with Qh5+. Qd6 15.Qh5+ g6 16.Qxg6+! hxg6 17.Bxg6#;

B) ⌓12...Qxc3 2.53/19 13.Bf4 Bd5;

C) 12...Bd6 3.80/20 13.Qh5+- g6 14.Bxg6! fxg6 15.Rxe6+ Kd8 16.Nf7+ Kc8 17.Qe2! threatening both Nxh8 and Re8+.]

[12.Nxh7? g6 13.h3 Qc6-+ *(13...Rxh7? 14.Re1-+)*]

[12.Re1+- 2.78/20]

12...g6± 13.Qh3 Bd5? 4.91/21

[13...Be7!± had to be tried.]

[13...Be7!± 0.56/21]

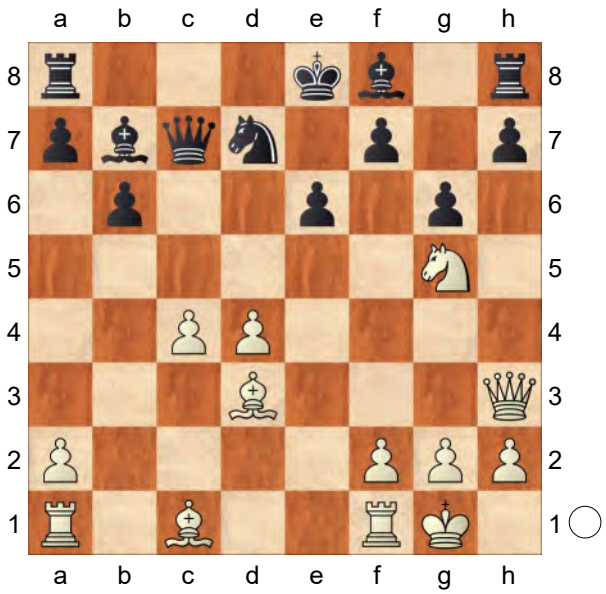
14.c4!+- Winning. The pawn can't be captured, and moving the bishop allows a decisive sacrifice on e6. White is clearly winning.

[14.Nxh7? Be7 15.Bb5 0-0-0 16.Bxd7+ Rxd7-+]

14...Bb7

[14...Bxc4 8.52/21 14...Bc6 5.12 15.Qf3! with a double attack on f7 and a8.]

[14...Bxc4? 15.Qf3 *(15.Nxh7? Bxd3 16.Re1 Be7-+)* 15...a6 16.Qxf7+ *(16.Qxa8+ Nb8+-)* 16...Kd8 17.Bxc4 *(17.Nxe6+ Bxe6 18.Bg5+ Nf6+-)*]



15.Nxe6 fxe6 16.Qxe6+ Be7

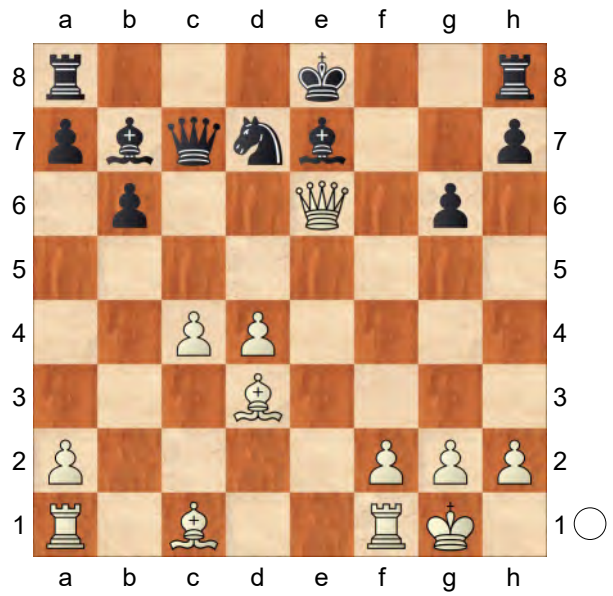
(Diagram)

17.Re1! Nf8 18.Qf6 0-0-0

[18...Rg8 19.Ba3!]

19.Rxe7 Nd7 20.Bf4

Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/



Black=0.98
1-0

B76
□ **Yoo,Christopher Woojin** **2563**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2725**
Julius Baer GenCup KO rapid (1.12)
[Chris Ward]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0-0 d5 10.Qe1 e5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Bc4 Be6 14.Kb1

[The immediate 14.Ne4 is still the main move here when after f5 15.Ng5 rather than retreating his attacked bishop, there is the option for Qf6 16.Nxe6 Qxe6 Probably White's bishop pair is for preference but in the 3 practical outings to date, Black has scored a draw and 2 wins including 17.Bc5 Rfd8 18.Qa5 Rd7 19.Kb1 Rad8 20.Ka1 e4 as seen in the site annotated Djokic,M (2227)-Corrales Jimenez,F (2532) chess.com INT 2020.]

14...Re8

[Seeking immediate action along the half-open b-file with 14...Rb8 is the direct approach when 15.Ne4 *(15.Bb3 Qc7 16.Ne4 Nxe3 17.Qxe3 Bxb3 18.axb3 Rfd8 19.g4 Rd4 20.g5 a5 21.Rhe1 a4* had seen Black go from slightly worse to a bit better in Walter,S (2220)-Winiarski,M (2295) Warsaw POL 2017.*)* 15...f5 *(15...Qc7 16.Bc5* is then the standard white piece configuration that has long been associated with even the main lines of 9 0-0-0 d5.*)* 16.Bxa7!? was originally brought to our attention on the forum whilst more recently of course though we've seen 14...a5 which at least ensures that pawn will remain for now at least.]

15.Ne4

[Overwhelmingly the most popular move and certainly best. Subscribers may recall my surprise at 15.h4 Qc7 when suddenly the black knight was unpinned and there was a direct threat to White's dark-squared bishop as well as tactical possibilities involving ... e4 in Navara,D (2735)-Edouard,R (2641) Drancy FRA 2016.]

[Elsewhere rather impressive (from a Black perspective!) is 15.g4?! Qc7 16.Nxd5 cxd5 17.Bxd5 Bxd5 18.Rxd5 e4! 19.Qd1 Rab8 20.Bc1? Qc3! 0-1 as seen in Ziegler,A (2294)-Cacciola,A (2098) Split 2015.]

15...f5

[Instead 15...Qc7 16.Bc5 is the site annotated Leko,P (2709)-Trent,L (2463) Douglas ENG 2016 game worth checking out even if White has scored very well in practice there.]

[15...Qb8!? 16.Bc5 f5 17.Ng5 e4

(the mate threat on b2 highlighting the reason behind ...Qb8 plus of course aside from being on the b-file, her majesty can also travel to e5.) 18.Bd4 Bxd4 19.Rxd4 Qe5 20.c3 e3 21.f4 Qf6 22.h4 h6 23.Nxe6 Qxe6 was quite accurate chess. It may now be objectively better for White but Black wasn't without chances in Pauwels,C (2551)-Haugen, A (2526) ICCF email 2010.]

[Another idea for Black is to look to park a pawn on a4 (making the b-file blocking retreat Bb3 impossible. Hence 15...a5 with:

A) Alternatively 16.h4 h6 (the standard approach in such systems is for Black to prepare to meet g4-g5 with ...h6-h5 and h4-h5 with ...g6-g5 and it's generally up to White to decide which of and when those moves should occur.) 17.Qd2 f5 *(17...Kh7 18.h5* and as discussed in the past, Black has to choose between advancing his g-pawn or taking on h5.*)* 18.Nc5 f4 19.Bf2 Bf7 20.Ka1 Qc7 21.Rhe1 Rad8 22.Qe2 Nf6 23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.Bxf7+ Qxf7 and with that block on e4, White held a positional advantage in Kolesar, M (2512) -Westera,B (2446) ICCF email 2011.;

B) 16.g4 a4 17.h4 h6 and an intriguing game was 18.Bc5 Qc7 19.h5 g5 20.Rh2 Red8 21.Rhd2 Nc3+ 22.Nxc3 Rxd2 23.Rxd2 Bxc4 24.Qe4 Be6 25.Rd6 Rd8 26.Rxd8+ Qxd8 27.Kc1 Qa5 28.Qxc6 â-â Siigur, J (2425)-Windhausen,G (2486) ICCF email 2010. Although White was generally for preference throughout, at the end Black was better!]

16.Ng5 Bc8

[Enthusiastic followers of this variation will know that I had wondered about 16...a5 (also useful for stopping the white queen from parking itself on that square should the black queen move away.) 17.Nxe6 (of course certainly not forced just yet.) Rxe6 previously remarking 'A slightly tricky c4-g8 diagonal but there will always be play against b2 and whereas White may look to g2-g4 at some point, equally the black a-pawn has ambitions!'. However whereas I also added 'Alas to date there have been no takers for that idea with the logical preservation of the bishop instead being the predominant preference.' in fact I can update that with 18.g4 Rb8 *(18...fxg4 19.fxg4 e4!?* is more what I had in mind. Three isolanis but clear possible action for the pieces.*)* 19.gxf5 gxf5 20.Bb3 Qe7 21.Rg1 Kh8 with White for preference in the eventual draw Matras Clement,A (2300)-Findlay,I (2290) Victoria 2018.]

17.h4

[I'm sure quite a lot of the chess playing population of the World will remember the 'crude blunder' (as the World Champion put it) 17.g4?? dropping a piece to f4 in the site annotated Carlsen,M-Jones,G Tata Steel Masters 2018. With that in mind the text is kind of forced to protect the knight although it's worth remembering that the steed can return to e4 in the future whilst ...fxe4 fxe4 would leave the black d5-knight pinned to his king.]

17...h6

[Interesting is that the engine does prefer White slightly after 17...Rb8 either with 18 Bb3 covering the b2-pawn or 18 Bxa7 greedily grabbing a pawn. Nevertheless in practical play Black has only lost once in 17 practical encounters there and that was seemingly on time from a better position!]

18.Ne4 Possible for the pinning reasons I just explained. To me

[18.Nh3 doesn't feel right (Knights on the rim are dim and all that!) However after a5 19.Qd2 f4 *(19...Kh7* is less committal*)* 20.Bc5 Rb8 (teeing up ...e4) 21.b3 possibly Black should take it anyway before it drops back to f2 and into e4. Instead

A) So 21...Bxh3 22.Rxh3 *(* Actually *22.gxh3!?* is probably the better recapture with *Kh7 23.Bxd5 cxd5 24.Qxd5 Qxh4* for example in White's favour.*)* 22...e4 when Black has his fair of the chances.;

B) 21...Qf6 22.Nf2 e4 23.Bd4 Qxd4 24.Qxd4 Bxd4 25.Rxd4 exf3 *(25...e3 26.Nd3* not ideal as a pawn will drop soon.*)* 26.Bxd5+ cxd5 27.gxf3 Bf5 28.Nd3 Rbc8 29.Rxd5 Re3 30.Rf1 occurred in Yeritsyan,A (2372)-Rechlis,G (2521) St Petersburg 2018 where White was able to convert his extra pawn advantage despite Black clearly have some active play for it.]

18...Be6 19.Nc5

[19.Bb3 Qc7 *(19...fxe4 20.fxe4!* (no need to take on d5 just yet) *a5* transposes to the aforementioned variation which Black is trying to avoid. The unpinning of the black knight means that White's e4-knight really is en prise now and so it has to move. *21.exd5 cxd5 22.Qd2 d4 23.Bxe6+ Rxe6 24.Bxh6 Bxh6 25.Qxh6 Rb6 26.Rhe1 Rc8 27.Rd3 Qf6 28.Rf3 Qc6 29.Qd2 e4 30.Rf4 e3 31.Qd3 Qc3! 32.Qxc3 dxc3 33.b3 Re6* â-â (33) Dutra,P (2203)-Stratta,R (2346) ICCF email 2015 is an interesting one. Black had some b-file pressure for the pawn along with a couple of centre pawns and though I'm not totally convinced, evidently that turned out to be enough compensation.*)* 20.Nc5 Bf7 21.g4!? Looking to either expose the black king along the g-file or regain control of the e4-square. fxg4 *(21...e4 22.fxe4 fxe4* would be a direct transposition to the game.*)* 22.fxg4 e4 with a similar scenario to that just discussed. Black now has three isolated pawns but the passed e-pawn could become a nuisance whilst the Dragon bishop has now been reintroduced to the action. See the site annotated Brodsky,D (2455)-Beradze,I (2475) chess.com INT 2021.]

19...Bf7 20.g4 Rb8?!

[Consistent with all previous comments I would rather have seen the immediate 20...e4! (even more accurate here than taking on g4 first) as after 21.fxe4 *(*or *21.gxf5 exf3)* aside from recapturing on e4, Black has 21...Qb6!? (threatening mate on b2 and unpinning the knight) with 22.Bb3 running into Nxe3 23.Qxe3 Bxb3 24.axb3 Rxe4! fine for Black.]

21.Bb3 Now with b2 shielded, ...Qb6 can't come with gain of tempo. **21...f4?** Black is worse but handing over the e4-square and a no risk position for White

feels really poor. **22.Bf2 Qe7 23.Ne4** The white knight finally sits pretty here whilst the Dragon bishop can't be a happy bunny! **23...Red8 24.Qa5**

[Equally White could flick in 24.h5 g5 first.]

24...Rd7 25.Qc5 Qe6 26.Qa3 Qe8 27.Bc5 Qd8 28.Rd3! After a spot of manoeuvring, White ramps things up by preparing a doubling on the d-file. **28...Rb5 29.Qa6**

[Actually very possible was 29.Rhd1 intending Ra5 30.Qb4! i.e. Nxb4 31.Bxf7+ Kh7 *(or 31...Kxf7 32.Rxd7+)* 32.Rxd7 Qb8 33.Bxg6+ Kxg6 34.h5+ Kh7 35.Nf6+ Kh8 36.Rd8+]

29...Qc7 30.Ba4 Nb4 White then needn't have allowed this bit of counterplay but still he is clearly better. **31.Bxb4 Rxb4 32.Rxd7 Qxd7 33.Bb3**

[Definitely not 33.Qxc6? when things could have gone especially pear-shaped after Bxa2+! 34.Kxa2?? Rxa4+]

[33.Bxc6 was possible but the text is most sensible, swapping off the better of Black's bishop pair, essentially leaving good knight Vs bad bishop.]

33...Bxb3 34.axb3 Rd4 35.Qe2 White has all the positional factors in his favour and now it's just a case of working out a plan for progression. **35...a5 36.Kc1**

[36.c3 immediately followed by Kc2 looked obvious but that soon happens anyway!]

36...Kh7 37.c3 Rd5 38.Kc2 Qa7 39.Ra1

[Or 39.h5 g5 first and then 40.Ra1 with one one of those Black isolanis being targeted.]

39...Qb6 40.h5 g5

[Clearly Black didn't fancy 40...gxh5 and those aforementioned two moves get flicked in anyway.]

41.Nd2

[41.Rd1! intending to force the rooks off through Qc4 was another natural plan as the queen and knight pairing would boss.]

41...Kh8 42.Nc4 Qc7 43.Qe4 But this looks pretty dominant too and from a Black perspective, a far cry from the activity we saw the young Indian prodigy have in his other Dragon offering this month. **43...Qa7 44.Re1**

[Or 44.b4 a4 first but I'm going to stop being critical here on in as ultimately White gets the job done!]

44...Qc5 45.Kb1 Qb5 46.Ka2 Qc5 47.Qe2 Qb5 48.Qe4 Qc5 49.Rf1 Qb5 50.Rc1 Rd8 51.Re1 Rd5 52.Re2 Qc5 53.Rc2 Qb5 54.Rd2 Qc5 55.Kb1 Qb5 56.Kc2 Qc5 57.Qe2 Qb5 58.Qe4 Qc5 59.Rg2 Although it's fair to say White is taking his time! **59...Qb5 60.Nd2 Qa6 61.Qc4 Qb6 62.Ne4 Qe3 63.Qe2 Qb6 64.Nd2 Qc5 65.Qa6 Rd8 66.Ne4 Qe3 67.Rd2** Time to wake up! **67...Rxd2+ 68.Nxd2 Qc5 69.Ne4 Qd5 70.c4** Finally netting a pawn. **70...Qd4 71.Qxc6 Qe3 72.Qa8+ Kh7 73.Qd5 Qe1**

[73...Qxf3?? not possible because of 74.Nxg5+]

74.Qd1 Qb4 75.Qd2 Qb6 76.c5 Qa7 77.c6 a4 78.Qd3 axb3+ 79.Qxb3 Qa6 80.c7

1-0

C67

□ **Yoo,Christopher Woojin 2563**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2725**
Julius Baer GenCup KO rapid (1.14)
[Giri,Anish]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 In a must-draw, Erigaisi plays the most solid opening that exists, the Berlin defense. **4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4** A little sideline, a clever approach, when in a must-win situation. **6...Be7 7.Nc3 0-0 8.d4 e4** Returning the pawn one way or the other is a common way of trying to deal with White's gambit approach. Black could have also included a6 at some point. **9.Nxe4 Nxe4 10.Rxe4 d5 11.Re3** Interesting, intending to swing the rook accross, along the third rank, potentially. **11...Bd6 12.Bxc6** White creates some imbalance, as Black was ready to transfer the knight with Ne7, keeping the symmetry. Now White gets a better pawn structure, in return for the bishop pair. **12...bxc6 13.h3** Modest, but the tempting 13.Ne5 also doesn't exactly kill, after 13...c5. **13...c5** Logical, trying to undouble the pawns, but it wasn't neccessary. Now White gets to eventually control the important dark squares d4-c5. **14.dxc5 Bxc5 15.Rc3** The rook proves useful on the third rank. **15...Bb4 16.Rd3 c6 17.Bf4** Finishing the development. White really doesn't have much, but there is quite some play left here. **17...Re8** Black plays very natural moves- rooks belong on open files. **18.c3 Bf8 19.b4** White highlights the ambition of controlling the dark squares. Black though has a strong light squared bishop and shouldn't be doing badly just yet. **19...Bf5 20.Re3 Rxe3?!** Stronger was 20...Be4!, when the bishop on f4 is also potentially vulnerable to Qf6 at some point. Now Black forces White to reposition the dark squared bishop to a better square, a protected one, from which it also controls the c5 square. **21.Bxe3 Bd6 22.Nd4 Bd7** Black has to go passive here, having very slightly misplayed it. **23.Qf3** White gets to activate the pieces now and slowly start bullying Black on the dark squares. **23...Qc7 24.Nb3** A beautiful regroup. Black is still solid, but the dark squares are fully under White's control. **24...Re8 25.Bc5 Be5 26.a5 Bc8** It is still hard for White to do much, as Arjun remains patient and there isn't anything obvious White can try here. **27.Qd3 h6 28.Bd4 Bd6 29.Qd2** White hints at a trade of rooks... or a potential queen sacrifice!? **29...Bh2+ 30.Kh1 Bf4 31.Re1!** An incredible idea frankly. It takes deep understanding to realize when the rook and a bishop can match a queen, since the childhood math they teach us, claims that queen is worth a couple of points more. **31...Bxd2** Arjun grabs the queen and indeed, there is no need to panic, as even though White has enough compensation, Black's position is full of resources as well. **32.Rxe8+ Kh7 33.Nxd2 Be6** Hinting at some Qd7 Bxh3 ideas. **34.Nb3** It was also possible to play it more slowly with 34.Kg1!? anticipating the Qd7 Bxh3 idea. **34...Qd7 35.Ra8 Bxh3** Now Black is threatening the perpetual with Bxg2 and Qg4-d1, which White must have missed when allowing 34...Qd7! (in fact I suspect he missed Qd7 itself). Being in a must win, though, Christopher shrugs it off and keeps on fighting. **36.f3!?** White has to try, but of course now it is clear that

Black has to be in a great shape. **36...Bf5** A more brutal solution was also possible. 36...Qf5!? hinting at Qb1+, and followed by h5-h4, ready to sacrifice the h3 bishop with strong attack against the naked white king. **37.Rxa7 Qe6 38.Kh2 Qe1** Black is chasing a perpetual. White is desperate. **39.g4?!** Draw was not an option... **39...Qe2+** A slow 39...Bg6! followed by h5 would lead to mating attack, but I can imagine Arjun relaxed somewhat here. **40.Kg3 Qe1+** Surprisingly, simplifying makes Black's life only harder. Stronger was still Bg6! intending h5 and a slow, yet quick attack. **41.Bf2 Qxc3 42.gxf5 Qxb3 43.Rxf7** Suddenly there are threats of a6, but also Bd4! and Arjun panics. **43...Qxb4?** This lands Black in trouble, as the a-pawn keeps on walking. From the possible defense I like 43...h5!?, intending h4+, but also giving h6 square for the king, which can be relevant after an eventualy Bd4 Rxg7. **44.a6** Black has suddenly found himself at the edge of a cliff and now stumbles again. **44...Qa4?** It was neccessary to find a strong idea here- 44....Qd2! intending to grab the f7 rook with Qg5-Qh5-Qxf7 was still holding. **45.a7** Now Black is actually lost. **45...d4 46.f6** This gives Black some chances, but the win with 46.Re7!! was not findable with the time White had. The natural 46.Rd7 wasn't good enough because of c5!. **46...Kg6** Black keeps on fighting, but White still has the a7 pawn and it remains a near hopeless mission to stop that pawn. **47.Rd7 gxf6 48.Rxd4** Using the fact that Qxa7 loses to Rg4+ discovery. **48...Qa5 49.Rc4** Black has to be super accurate here to not lose immediately. **49...Qa6?** A final mistake, now White gets access to the 8th rank and there turns out to be no perpetual anywhere. **50.Rb4! Qa5 51.Rb8!** The bishop on f2 does the job of stopping the perpetual on its own. **51...Qg5+ 52.Kh3 Qh5+ 53.Kg2 Qg5+ 54.Kh1 Qh5+ 55.Kg1 Qg5+ 56.Kf1 Qc1+ 57.Be1** Very accurate play by White, now Qc4+ is met with Kg2! and the final check along the 2nd rank will be dodged with Bf2!. Accurately done. **57...Qe3**

[57...Qc4+ 58.Kg2 Qe2+ 59.Bf2!]

58.Rg8+ Kf7 59.a8Q Qxf3+ 60.Kg1 Black can give two more checks but after Qe3+ Bf2 Qc1+ Kg2 it is all over. What a fight!

1-0

C58

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2633**

■ **Gupta,Abhijeet** **2628**

MPL 58th Indian Championship (6.1)

[Justin Tan]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Na5

[5...b5 6.Bf1! Nxd5 *(6...Qxd5?! 7.Nc3 Qc5 8.Bxb5 Be7 9.d3±; 6...h6!? 7.Nxf7!* see Vallejo Pons,F-Naiditsch,A in the PGN Archive.*)* 7.Bxb5 Bb7 8.Qh5 Qd7 9.d4 g6 *(9...exd4? 10.0-0±* is far too dangerous for the black king.*)* 10.Qe2 0-0-0 11.dxe5 Qf5 12.Bd3 *(* According to the engine, it is possibly stronger to play *12.Nf3 Ndb4 13.Na3 Bg7 14.0-0±* but personally, I would exchange queens into a slightly better endgame if I have the chance.*)* 12...Qxe5 13.Nxf7 Qxe2+ 14.Bxe2 Re8 15.Nxh8 Nd4 16.Be3 Nxc2+ *(*Or *16...Nxe3 17.fxe3 Nxc2+*

18.Kd2 which transposes.*)* 17.Kd2 Nxa1 18.Nf7 Nxe3□ (square symbol means "only move") 19.fxe3

A) 19...Bc5?! 20.Na3 Bxe3+ 21.Kc3 and the knight on a3 struggles to survive. Black has some superficial way to keep it alive with: Bf4 22.Bc4 *(22.Rd1!±)* 22...Re3+ 23.Kb4 Re1! 24.Rxe1 Bd2+ 25.Kc5 Bxe1 26.Be6+ Kb8 27.g4±;

B) 19...Bd5 20.Ba6+ Kb8 21.Nc3! Bxf7 22.Rxa1 Bh6 23.Re1±]

[5...Nxd5?! 6.Nxf7 Kxf7 7.Qf3+ Ke6 8.Nc3 Ncb4 9.0-0! c6 10.d4! Qf6 11.Qe2 Ke7 12.dxe5 Qg6 13.Ne4 Bf5 14.f3± This is an awful position for the black king which is in a permanent state of danger.]

6.Bb5+ c6

[6...Bd7 7.Qe2

A) 7...Be7 8.Nf3! Immediately targeting the weak e5-pawn. *(8.Nc3* has been covered many times in the Archives.*)* 8...0-0 *(8...Nxd5 9.Nxe5 c6 10.Bd3 Be6 11.0-0 Nf4 12.Qe4 Nxd3 13.Nxd3±)* 9.Bxd7 Qxd7 10.Nxe5 Qxd5 *(10...Qf5 11.d4 Nxd5 12.Qd3! Qh5 13.Qf3 Qxf3 14.Nxf3±)* 11.Nf3 Rae8 12.0-0 Bd6 13.Qd1±;

B) 7...Bd6 8.Bxd7+ Qxd7 *(8...Nxd7?? 9.Ne4+-)* 9.Nc3 c6 *(9...0-0?! 10.a3!* The knight on a5 is a problem piece. *b6 11.0-0±)* 10.dxc6 Nxc6 11.d3 Nd4 12.Qd1 0-0 13.0-0 Rac8 14.Nge4 Nxe4 15.dxe4 f5 16.Be3 *(16.Bd2 h6 17.a3)* 16...Ba3!? *(16...Bc5? 17.Ne2!* Threatening to win with c3. *Qb5 18.Bxd4 exd4 19.exf5 Qxb2 20.Qd3±* Somehow White manages to keep the extra pawn and maintain play, for instance on the b-file. *)* 17.Rb1 Bxb2 18.Rxb2 Rxc3 19.exf5 Rf7 20.Bxd4 exd4 21.Re1 Rxf5 22.Rb3 Rfc5 23.Rxc3 Rxc3 24.Qd2±]

7.dxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 Nd5! The only move that equalises according to modern chess theory.

[8...h6?! 9.Ne4 is White's point. Black doesn't have enough compensation after

A) A natural continuation is 9...Nd5 10.0-0 Nf4 11.Be2 Notice that ...f5 is always too weakening for the black king now as ...h6 weakened too much already. Be7 *(11...f5?! 12.Ng3 Bd6 13.d4! 0-0 14.dxe5 Bxe5 15.Bxf4 Bxf4 16.Qxd8 Rxd8 17.Nc3±)* 12.d3 0-0 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Nbd2± White is a healthy pawn up. The problem for Black in this line is that not only are they a pawn down but their pawn structure is fractured.;

B) 9...Nxe4 10.Bxe4 Bd6 *(10...f5?? 11.Qh5++-* is clearly impossible for Black.*)* 11.d3 0-0 12.g4! Anticipating ...f5. Rb8 *(12...f5? 13.gxf5 Bxf5 14.Bxf5 Rxf5 15.Qg4 Qf6 16.Nd2!* Black cannot take on f2 due to Ne4. Whatever the case, the knight is about to go there anyway with a winning position.*)* 13.Nc3 Nb7 14.h4!? Going on the attack. Black is probably just in big danger now. White's king is actually safe in the centre.]

[8...Bd6 9.Nc3 0-0?! 10.b3 h6 11.Nge4 Nxe4 12.Nxe4 Bc7 *(12...f5? 13.Nxd6 Qxd6 14.Bb2+-* Although Black has a slightly imposing

pawn centre, they are losing: White is a pawn up, with the two bishops in quite an open position. Black cannot really make use of the e- and f-pawns without weakening their own position. *e4?! 15.Be2 f4 16.f3! exf3 17.Bxf3 Re8+ 18.Kf2+-* The king is surprisingly very safe as ...Qc5+ can always be answered by d4.*)* 13.g4!? Again this move to secure the knight on e4 against ...f5 threats. Qd4 *(13...f5 14.gxf5 Bxf5 15.Qe2 Qh4 16.Qf3!* The idea is to swap queens with Qg3. Note that *Bxe4? 17.Qxe4 Qxf2+ 18.Kd1* is actually completely losing for Black as their king is the one which is trouble now. Again the white king is very safe.*)* 14.Rb1 f5 15.gxf5 Bxf5 16.Qe2 Nb7 17.Ba3 Rf7 18.Rg1± Apparently White must stay calm with the king going to d1 in most lines. If given the chance, you will probably stabilise his position, but he is also not in any particular danger. The black king is in more trouble!]

[8...Be7 9.Nc3 0-0 *(9...h6 10.Nf3 Bd6 11.0-0 0-0* transposes.*)* 10.0-0 h6 11.Nf3 Bd6 12.Re1 Re8 13.b3 This is the usual setup White is aiming for. c5 14.Ne4 Bb7 15.Qe2 Nd5 16.Bb2 Nf4 *(16...Bf8?? 17.Nxe5+-)* 17.Qe3 Nd5 18.Qe2 Nf4 19.Qf1 Bc7

A) 20.Bb5! Re7 21.Re3 *(21.Nxc5!? Bxf3 22.gxf3* Black has compensation but even this is not out of the question. Nd3 next, eliminating the strong knight on f4. *)* 21...Nd5 22.Rd3±;

B) 20.Ba6!? Bxa6 21.Qxa6 f5 22.Nxc5 e4 23.Nd4± Quite a strange position where Black is arguably more lose than White but you need to play well with your pieces. There will always be a question whether you'll need to play the weakening move g2-g3 in order to prevent attacks against your king.]

9.Nf3 Bd6 10.0-0 There are now two main lines. **10...0-0**

[The other very big and also tempting line for Black is 10...Nf4

A) 11.Re1 Nxd3 12.cxd3 0-0 13.b3!?∞ *(13.Nc3)*;

B) 11.Nc3 A lesser known line but one which I believe forces Black to be more precise. 11...Nxd3 *(11...0-0?! 12.Be2* Notice that the knight on c3 prevents ...e5-e4. *c5 13.d3±* White keeps the extra pawn without having to fracture the structure. *)* 12.cxd3 0-0 13.Ne4

B1) 13...c5 14.b3 A typical reaction. White will put the bishop on a3 in most cases. Ba6 15.Re1 Threatening the e5-pawn after 16.Nxd6 Qxd6 17.Nxe5. f6 16.Ba3! Nb7? 17.Nxd6 Qxd6 18.d4! exd4 19.b4! c4 *(19...cxb4 20.Qb3++-)* 20.Qa4 Qb6 21.Nxd4! Qxd4 22.Qxa6±;

B2) 13...Bc7 Sidestepping Nxd6 so they can consider playing for f5. 14.Qc2 Protecting the d3-pawn and threatening 15.b4 Nb7 16.Qxc6.

B2a) 14...Qd5 15.b4 Nb7 16.Bb2 Bg4 17.Qc4 Bxf3 18.gxf3± White has lots of doubled pawns now... but there's also pressure along the c-file and in the endgame White can think about taking advantage of that.;

B2b) 14...f5?! 15.Nc5 Nb7

16.b3 e4 17.Nxb7 Bxb7 18.dxe4 c5! 19.Bb2 fxe4 20.Ne5± Qd6 21.Rac1 Rfe8 22.Ng4! *(22.Qxc5 Qxc5 23.Rxc5 Bd6! 24.Ra5 Bc7 25.Rc5 Bd6=)* 22...h5?? 23.Qxc5+-;

B2c) 14...Bg4?! 15.b4! White just grabs the pawn on c6 and this is more serious for Black than the doubled f-pawns are for White! f5? 16.Ng3 Nb7 *(16...Bxf3 17.gxf3±)* 17.Qxc6 Rf6 18.Qc4+ Kh8 19.Bb2 Rc8 20.Rfc1 f4 21.Ne4 Rg6 22.Kh1 Bb6 23.Qf7 Rxc1+ 24.Rxc1 Bxf3 25.gxf3 1-0 (25) Kovalev,V (2596)-Sanikidze,T (2533) Konya 2016;

B2d) 14...c5! It seems that only 2600s and correspondence players are finding this move so I wouldn't be worried at all. More likely that the opponent makes a mistake with one of the other moves I provided. 15.Qxc5 Ba6 *(15...Bg4 16.b4 Bxf3 17.bxa5 Be2 18.Re1 Bxd3 19.Ba3 Re8 20.Bb4±)* 16.Re1 Bxd3 17.b3 Re8 18.Ba3 Bb6 *(18...Rc8?? 19.Rac1+-)* 19.Qd6 Nb7 20.Qxd8 Raxd8 21.Rac1 f5 22.Nc5 Nxc5 23.Bxc5 e4 24.Bxb6 axb6 25.Ng5 h6 26.Nh3 White will neutralise the pressure with f3 or f4 soon. It doesn't look so pleasant but apparently it's a draw. g5 27.f3 exf3 28.Rxe8+ Rxe8 29.gxf3 Re2 30.Rc6=]

11.Re1 f5! Not the most common move, but the only one that equalises. Like in the ...Nf4 line, I believe you will only face this if you are playing a 2600 or a correspondence player! They really need to be professional players to know this...

[11...Nf4? 12.Bf1±]

[11...Re8?! is the main line but it is actually not equalising. 12.Nc3 f5 *(12...h6 13.Ne4 Bc7 14.Ng3* Prevents ...f5. *c5 15.b3 Nc6 16.Ba3!±)* 13.Nxd5 cxd5 14.Bf1 If Black does nothing, White can go d3, and press on the queenside. It turns out that Black's attacking chances are not better than White's queenside play.

A) 14...Nc6 15.Bb5!

A1) 15...Qc7 16.c4 Bd7 *(16...e4?? 17.cxd5* The e-pawn is pinned.*)* 17.d3± A strange position. Somehow Black cannot make use of their pawn centre. Rab8 *(17...e4?? 18.dxe4 dxe4 19.c5! exf3 20.Rxe8+ Rxe8 21.cxd6+-)* 18.Bd2

A1a) 18...e4 19.Bxc6! Bxc6 20.cxd5 Bxd5 *(20...exf3? 21.dxc6 Bxh2+ 22.Kh1 fxg2+ 23.Kxg2+-)* 21.dxe4 Bxe4 22.Rc1 Qb7 23.Bc3±;

A1b) 18...h6;

A2) 15...Bd7 16.d4 e4 17.Ne5 Nxe5 18.dxe5 Rxe5 19.Bxd7 Qxd7 20.Bf4±;

B) 14...e4 15.Nd4 Qf6 16.c3 White follows up with d3xe4 next. But just as importantly, White threatens a devious trick 17.Qa4 with a double attack on the rook and knight (Black can defend by pulling their queen back to d8 but

then they have lost any hopes of an initiative).

B1) Illustration if Black does nothing: 16...h6 17.Qa4 *(17.d3+- f4 18.dxe4 dxe4 19.b4 Nb7 20.Bc4+ Kh8 21.Bd5+-)* 17...Qd8 18.d3 Bd7 19.Qd1 f4? 20.dxe4 dxe4 21.b4 Nb7 22.Bc4+ Kh8 23.Bd5+-;

B2) 16...f4? 17.Qa4! is a nasty trick.

B2a) 17...Re5!? Black hopes to gain play for the piece after ...Rh5. In fact, it is more important for White now to reduce the pressure in the centre with 18.d3! *(18.Qxa5 Rh5)* 18...Nb7 *(18...e3 19.fxe3 fxe3 20.Bxe3+-; 18...Rh5?? 19.Qe8++-)* 19.dxe4 dxe4 *(19...Nc5 20.Qd1 dxe4 21.b4! Nb7 22.Qc2* Again Black's e4-pawn falls. *)* 20.Qc6+-;

B2b) 17...Qd8 18.b4 Nb7 19.d3 Bg4 1-0 (34) Espinosa Veloz,E (2485) -Terletsky,O (2203) Chess.com INT 2021 20.dxe4 dxe4 21.Qc2 Black cannot hold onto the pawn centre. e3 *(21...Qe7 22.f3+-)* 22.fxe3 fxe3 23.Rxe3+-;

B3) 16...Nc4 17.d3 Ne5 18.dxe4 fxe4 19.Be2± Finally White stabilises the position! Rf8 20.Be3 Qh4 21.g3 Qh3 22.f4! Neutralising any threatening play from Black: Ng4 23.Bxg4 Bxg4 24.Qb3 Qh5 25.f5 Qf7 26.Rf1±;

B4) 16...Bb7 is an interesting idea to prepare ... f4 in the event of 17.d3. 17.d3 f4 18.b4 Nc6 This is the point of Bb7. 19.Nb5 Rad8 20.dxe4 dxe4 21.Qd5+ Kf8 *(21...Kh8?? 22.Nxd6 Rxd6 23.Rxe4!+-)* 22.Rxe4 Be5 23.Qc5+ Re7 24.Ba3 a6 25.Nd4 Nxd4 26.Rxe5 Qxe5 27.cxd4 Qxc5 28.bxc5 Bc6 29.Bb2±;

B5) 16...Bd7 17.d3 Nc6 *(17...f4?? 18.dxe4 dxe4 19.Nb5+-)* 18.dxe4 Nxd4 *(18...dxe4?? 19.Nb5)* 19.Qxd4 Qxd4 20.cxd4 fxe4 21.Be3± a5 22.Rec1 a4 23.Rc2 Reb8 24.Be2 Rb6 25.Rd1 Rab8 26.Bc1 Kf7 27.f3 Bf5 28.fxe4 Bxe4 29.Bd3 Bxd3 30.Rxd3 Rb4 31.h3 Be7 32.Rc7 R4b7 33.Rf3+ Kg8 34.Rc2 Bf6 35.Rd3 Rb4 36.Rcd2 Bg5 37.Rd1 Bxc1 38.Rxc1 Rxb2 39.Rc7 Rxa2 40.Re3 a3 41.Ree7 Ra1+ 42.Kh2 a2 43.Rxg7+ Kf8 44.Rcf7+ Ke8 45.Ra7 Kf8 46.Rxh7 Kg8 47.Rh5 Rb2 48.Rxd5 Rf1 49.Rd8+ Rf8 50.Rxf8+ Kxf8 51.h4 1-0 (51) Melkumyan,H (2663)-Salimova,N (2372) Chess.com INT 2020]

12.Nxe5 Qf6 13.Nf3 g5 14.c4 Nf4 15.Bf1 g4□ 16.d4! White will have such a strong initiative on the queenside that he was prepared to sacrifice a piece. After all, he is already two pawns up!

16...gxf3 17.Qxf3 Ne6□

[17...Ng6?? 18.c5 Bc7 19.b4 Nb7 20.Qb3+ Kg7 *(20...Rf7 21.Bc4+-)* 21.Bb2+-]

18.Qc3 Nxd4 Sacrificing the piece back.

[18...Nb7 19.c5 Bc7 20.b4 a5 *(20...Bd7?* 1-0 (64) Pichot,A (2630)-

Yilmaz,M (2630) Chess.com INT 2021 *21.d5! cxd5 22.Qxf6 Rxf6 23.Nc3 d4 24.Nd5 Rf7 25.Bc4+-; 20...Qxd4? 21.Qxd4 Nxd4 22.Bc4+* Black has to return material as *Kh8 23.Bb2* wins immediately. *Rd8 24.Nd2+-*)
21.b5
A) There is some deep theory after 21...cxb5 22.Bxb5 a4 23.Bc4 Na5 *(23...Ba5 24.Qg3+ Kh8 25.Rxe6! Bxe6 26.Bf4 Bxc4 27.Be5 Rae8 28.Bxf6+ Rxf6 29.Na3±)* 24.Bd5 but White just has good compensation as the black king is vulnerable, see Janik,I-Nasuta,G in the PGN Archive.;
B) 21...Qxd4? So,W (2770) - Carlsen,M (2862) chess24.com INT 2021 22.Bc4! *(22.Qxd4?! Nxd4 23.Bc4+ Be6* is now good for Black as the c5-pawn has been weakened: *24.Bxe6+ Nxe6 25.Rxe6 Nxc5∓* 0-1 (55) So, W (2770)-Carlsen,M (2862) chess24.com INT 2021 Extra [Stohl,I]*)* 22...Qxc3 23.Nxc3 Nbxc5 24.Ba3 cxb5 25.Nxb5 Bb6 26.Bxc5 Bxc5 27.Nc7±]

19.c5 Bc7 20.b4 Rb8 21.bxa5 Be6 22.Bc4
[Now the engines give an unclear evaluation after 22.f4∞ which is meant to be White's best move. Anyway, he played something else and went on to win a complicated game.]

22...Bxc4 23.Qxc4+ Rf7 24.Nd2 Rd8?? 25.Bb2+- Qh4
[25...Ne2+ 26.Qxe2 Qxb2 27.Nb3 Qxe2 28.Rxe2+-]

26.Bxd4??
[26.Kf1 Maintains the pin.]

26...Rxd4 27.g3 Rxc4 28.gxh4 Rxc5 29.Nb3 Rc4 30.Rac1 Rg4+ 31.Kf1 Bxh2 32.Re8+ Kg7 33.Rxc6± f4 34.f3 Rg1+ 35.Kf2 Rb1 36.Re2 Bg1+ 37.Kg2 Be3 38.Nc5 Rf6 39.Rc7+ Kg8 40.Ne4 Rg6+ 41.Kh2 Kf8 42.Rxh7 Rgg1 43.Kh3 Rbf1 44.Rc2 Rxf3+ 45.Kh2 Rc1 46.Rb2
1-0

D02
□ **Mchedlishvili,Mikheil 2595**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2675**
Sharjah Masters 5th (1) 21.05.2022
[Kapnisis,Spyridon]

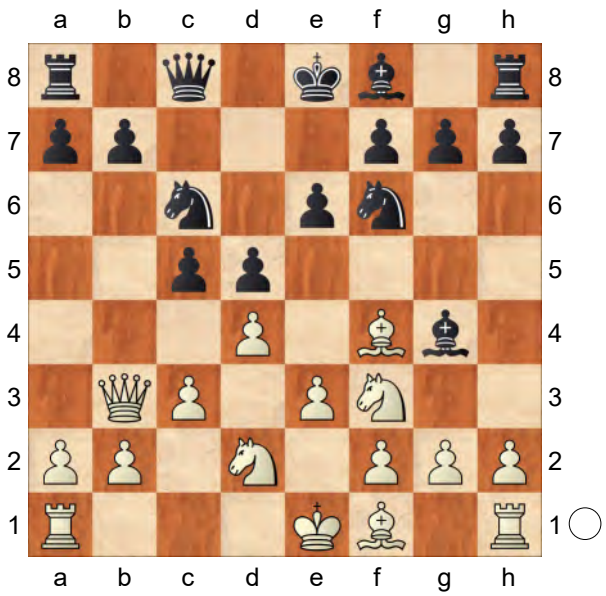
1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.Nf3 c5 4.e3 Nc6 5.Nbd2 Bg4!?
[5...Qb6]
[5...cxd4 6.exd4 Bf5]

6.c3
[6.h3!? Keeping the pawn on c2 looks like an interesting alternative Bxf3 *(6...Bh5 7.g4 Bg6 8.Bb5 e6 9.Ne5 Qb6 10.c4↑* White seems to have the initiative and has made good use of the fact that he hasn't committed to an early c3.*)* 7.Nxf3 e6 8.c3 cxd4 *(8...Bd6 9.dxc5 Bxc5∞)* 9.exd4± 1/2 (49) Puranik,A (2604)-Kollars,D (2622) Sitges ESP 2021]

6...e6 7.Qb3 Qc8
[7...Qb6 8.Qxb6 *(8.Ne5!? c4 9.Qxb6 axb6 10.Nxg4 Nxg4 11.e4±)* 8...axb6 9.Bb5 *(9.Ne5!?)* 9...Nd7± 1/2 (39) Erigaisi,A (2632)-Van Foreest, L (2539) Wijk aan Zee NED 2022]

(Diagram)

8.Nh4!?
[8.h3 Bh5
A) 9.g4 Bg6 10.Nh4 Qd7



(10...cxd4 11.exd4 Qd7∞)

11.Nxg6 hxg6

A1) 12.Be2 cxd4 *(12...Be7 13.Kf1 0-0 14.Kg2* 1-0 (77) Moroni,L (2581)-Mammadzada,G (2454) Sharjah UAE 2022*)* 13.exd4 Bd6⇄;

A2) 12.g5!? Nh5 13.Bh2;

A3) 12.Bg2 cxd4 13.exd4 Na5 14.Qc2 Bd6∞ 1-0 (33) Puranik,A (2618)-Narayanan,S (2553) Dhaka BAN 2022;

B) 9.Be2!? was the choice of Anish Giri in his recent game against Aryan Tari.

B1) 9...h6!? is a useful move in order to avoid g4,Nh4;

B2) 9...c4!? 10.Qd1 Be7 11.g4 *(11.a4 a6∞)* 11...Bg6 12.Nh4 Be4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Ng2 b5∞;

B3) 9...Be7 10.dxc5 Bxc5 *(10...Nd7!?)* 11.g4 Bg6 12.Nh4 Qd7 13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.g5 Nh5 15.Bh2± 1-0 (61) Giri,A (2761)-Tari,A (2654) Stavanger NOR 2022]

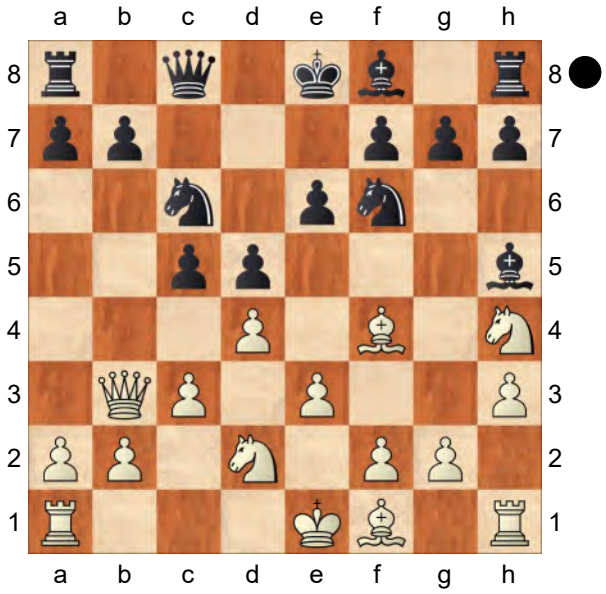
8...Bh5

[8...Be7 if black wants to follow the plan with cxd4 and Qd7,Bd6 then he has no rerason to develop his bishop to e7. 9.h3 Bh5 10.g4 Bg6

A) 11.Be2 Be4! 12.Nxe4 *(12.f3 c4! 13.Qd1 Nh5 14.gxh5 Bxh4+ 15.Kf1 Bd3∞)* 12...Nxe4 13.Nf3 0-0 0-1 (57) Van Foreest,J (2714)-Bok,B (2624) chess.com INT 2022 *(13...c4!?)*;

B) 11.Nxg6 hxg6 12.Be2 cxd4 13.exd4 Qd7 14.0-0-0 Bd6 15.Be3! Qc7 16.Kb1 0-0-0 17.h4 1/2 (17) Sedlak,N (2477)-Huzman,A (2539) Prague CZE 2022 *(17.c4!?↑)*]

9.h3



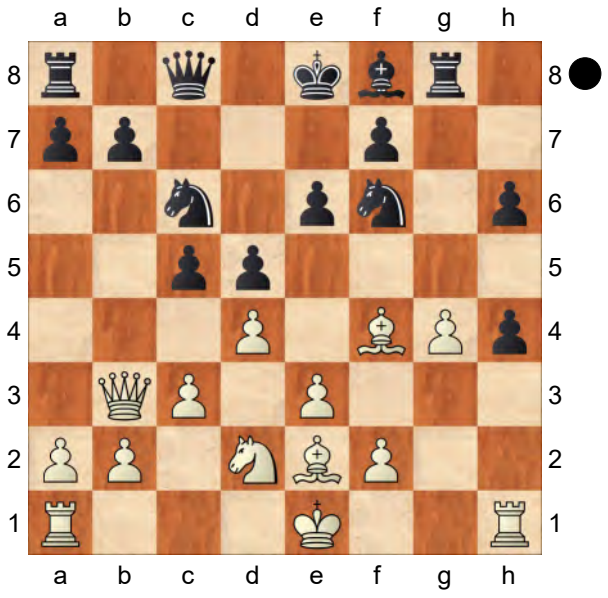
h6!? Black avoids the standard cxd4 exd4 Qd7 and tries to muddy the waters.

[9...cxd4!? 10.exd4 Qd7 11.Bd3 *(11.g4 Bg6 12.Nxg6 hxg6 13.Be2 Bd6 14.Be3 Rb8)* 11...Bd6 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.0-0 0-0 14.Nhf3 *(14.Rfe1 g5!?* makes the position a lot sharper. *15.Nhf3 g4 16.Ne5 gxh3∞)* 14...Rab8∞]

10.g4

[10.Bb5!? g5 *(10...Nd7∞)* 11.Be5]

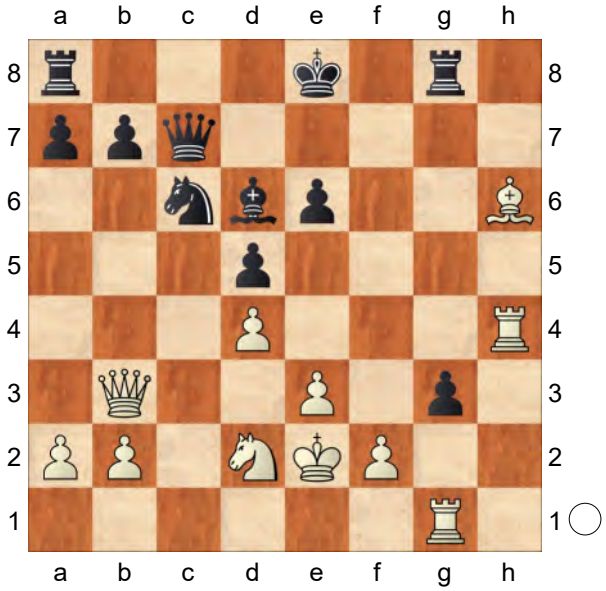
10...g5 11.Bh2
[11.Bg3!? cxd4! Accuracy is required by black *(11...gxh4?! 12.Bxh4 Nxg4 13.hxg4 Bxg4 14.e4!±* the center will open and the black king will be more exposed than his counterpart*)* 12.cxd4 *(12.exd4 gxh4 13.Bxh4 Nxg4 14.hxg4 Bxg4∞* With the center stabilized black shouldn't be afraid of an attack against his king in the foreseeable future.*)* 12...gxh4 13.Bxh4 Nxg4! 14.hxg4 Bxg4 15.Rc1 Qc7 16.f3 Bf5 17.e4 Bg6 18.Bf6 Rg8 19.exd5 exd5 20.Be5 Qd7 21.Bh3 Qe7 22.Kd1∞ Remains highly interesting and... balanced]
11...Bxg4
[11...gxh4?! 12.gxh5 Nxh5? 13.dxc5 Bxc5 14.0-0-0± it will be impossible for the black king to find shelter.]
[11...cxd4 12.cxd4 is likely to transpose to the game]
12.hxg4 gxh4 13.Be2 Rg8 14.Bf4
[14.Qd1 cxd4 15.cxd4 Bb4∞]



14...cxd4!
[14...c4?! Closing the center is not in black's favour since white can go e4 without too much effort. 15.Qc2±]
[14...Nxg4 15.Rxh4 Nf6 16.dxc5!? allows white to castle long and keep his king a lot safer. Rg1+ 17.Bf1 Nd7 18.0-0-0 Nxc5 19.Qc2⩱]
15.cxd4 Nxg4 16.Rxh4 f5!?
[16...Nf6 is a more solid choice]
17.Bxg4
[17.Rh1!? Kf7 18.a3 Rg6 19.Nf3⩱]
[17.f3?! Nf6 18.Rh1 h5⇄]
17...fxg4
[17...Rxg4 Exchanging rooks in order to keep the pawn on h6 doesn't make much sense since Rg8 is an important defender. 18.Rxg4 fxg4 19.Qd3 Nb4 *(19...Qd7 20.Qg6+ Qf7 21.Qxg4 h5∞)* 20.Qg6+ Kd7 21.Qh7+ Be7 22.Nb3! b6 *(22...Nc2+? 23.Kd2 Nxa1 24.Nc5+ Kc6 25.Qxe7+-)* 23.Rc1 Nc6∞]
18.Bxh6?! White hurries to equalize the material and ends up in a rather uncomfortable position.
[18.Ke2∞ in order to bring more forces in the kingside makes more sense than the immediate Bxh6.]
18...Bd6
[18...Qd7!?]
19.Ke2 g3
[19...Be7 20.Rh5 Qc7⇄ 21.Bf4? Qxf4!-+]
[19...Qd7 Making room in order to castle long looks quite logical. 20.Rg1 Qf7 21.Qd3 0-0-0 22.Rgxg4 Rxg4 23.Rxg4 e5⩱]
20.Rg1
[20.fxg3!?
A) 20...Bxg3? 21.Rg1! Kd7 22.Rh3 Qc7 23.Nf3! *(23.Rhxg3 Rxg3 24.Rxg3 Qxg3 25.Qxb7+ Qc7 26.Qxa8 Qh2+⩲)* 23...Bd6 24.Bg5±;

B) 20...Qd7 21.Bf4 0-0-0⩲;
C) 20...Rxg3 21.Nf3 Qd7 22.Bg5! Stops black from castling long Qg7 23.Rah1 Rxf3 24.Kxf3 Qxg5 25.Rh8+ Bf8 26.Rxf8+ Kxf8 27.Rh8+ Ke7 28.Rxa8 Qh5+=]

20...Qc7



21.fxg3?

[21.f4 It is better for white to stop black from opening the center with e5 than gettng the g3 pawn. 0-0-0 22.Bg5 Rdf8 23.Rxg3 Kb8⩲]

21...0-0-0

[21...Bxg3?? 22.Bf4+-]

22.Bf4

[22.Nf3 Bxg3∓]

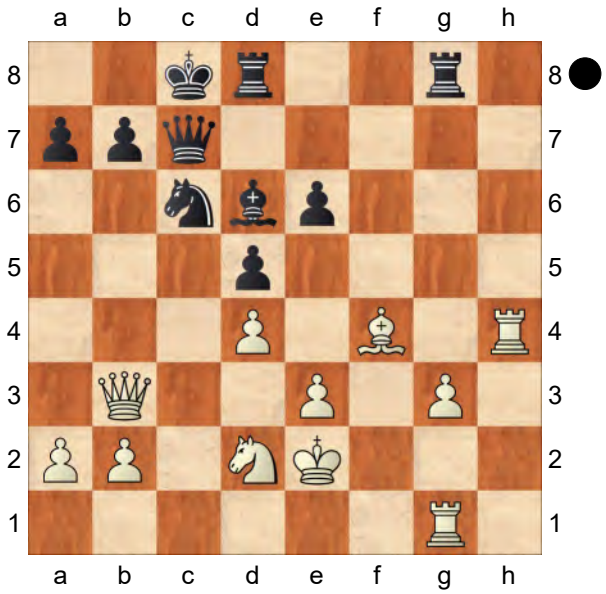
(Diagram)

22...e5?!

[22...Bxf4! 23.Rxf4 Kb8∓ Sooner or later e5 will be played and the white king will be exposed to serious danger.]

23.dxe5 Bxe5

[23...Nxe5? 24.Qxd5 Kb8 25.Rd1+- Black faces insolvable problems in

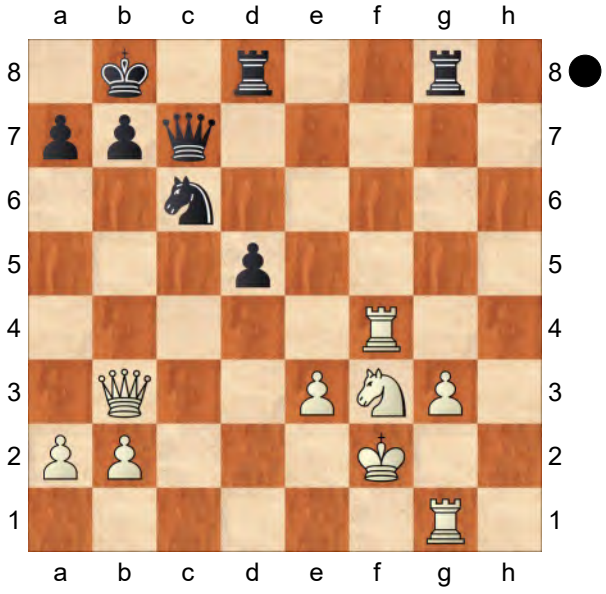


the diagonal h2-b8.]

24.Nf3 Bxf4 25.Rxf4?!

[25.exf4 Gives black a dangerous passed pawn but at least the white king will be a lot safer on f2. d4⩲]

25...Kb8 26.Kf2



Qh7! The black queen eyes the important c2 square and I guess that black prepares Rc8,Na5 and Rc2. The position is objectively close to equal but playing with white seems to me like a nightmare. **27.Qc3**

[27.Rd1!? Rc8 *(27...Qh3 28.Rg1=)*

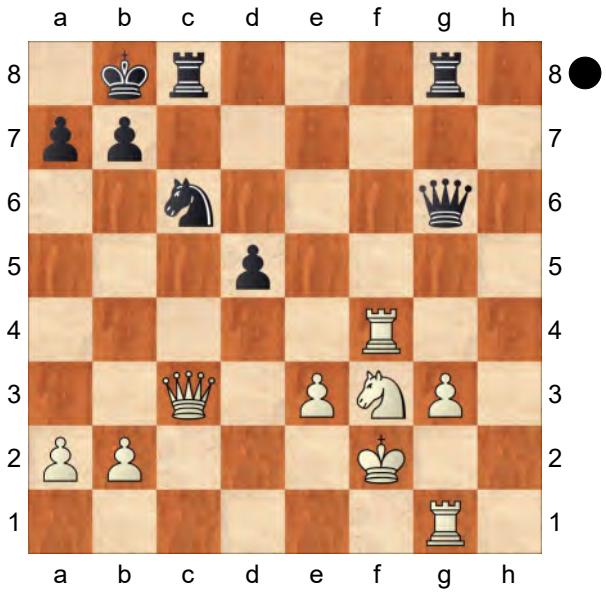
28.Rxd5 Ne5!? 29.Nxe5 Rc2+ 30.Ke1 Qh1+ 31.Rf1 Qg2 32.Nd7+ Ka8 33.Nb6+! axb6 34.Qa3+ Kb8 35.Rf8+=]

[27.Rh4? Qg6∓]

27...Rc8 28.Rh4?

[28.g4! Creating necessary space for the white king was demanded.]

28...Qg6 29.Rf4



Ka8?

[29...d4! It feels a bit strange that black missed this move. If I had to guess black missed white's next move 30.Qc5 *(30.Nxd4 Nxd4 31.Qxd4 Rc2+ 32.Ke1-+; 30.exd4 Ne7-+)* 30...Rge8 31.Re1 Nd8!∓]

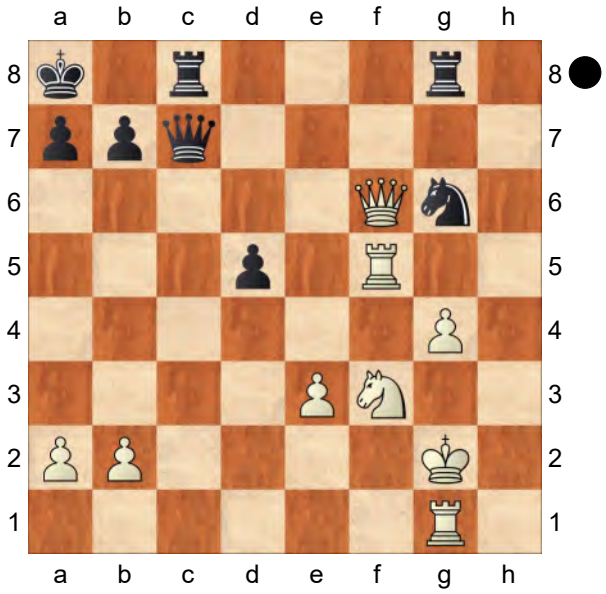
[29...Ne7? 30.Qe5+ Ka8 31.Qxe7 Rc2+ 32.Ke1 Rgc8 33.Rd4! Qf5! 34.Rf1 Qh3 35.Rg1 Qf5=]

30.g4! White finds the only way to keep the fight going. White king will find a temporary shelter on g3 protected by most of his pieces. **30...Ne7**

[30...d4!? is not as strong as in the previous move but still good enough. 31.exd4 Ne7 32.Qa5 Qc6⩲]

31.Qf6 Qc2+ 32.Kg3 Ng6 33.Rf5 Qc7+ 34.Kg2

[34.Kf2∓]



34...a6!? a useful prophylactic move before launching the final attack is not a bad idea.

[34...Qh7!? 35.Rf1 Rc4 *(35...a6∓)* 36.Rg5 Rh8 37.Qxg6! *(37.Rxg6? Qh3+ 38.Kf2 Rc2+ 39.Ke1 Rc1+ 40.Kd2 Rxf1-+)* 37...Rc2+ 38.Qxc2 Qxc2+ 39.Rf2 Qe4 40.Kg3 White's position is not so easy to break.]

[34...Rce8!?]

35.Rf1

[35.Kf2∓]

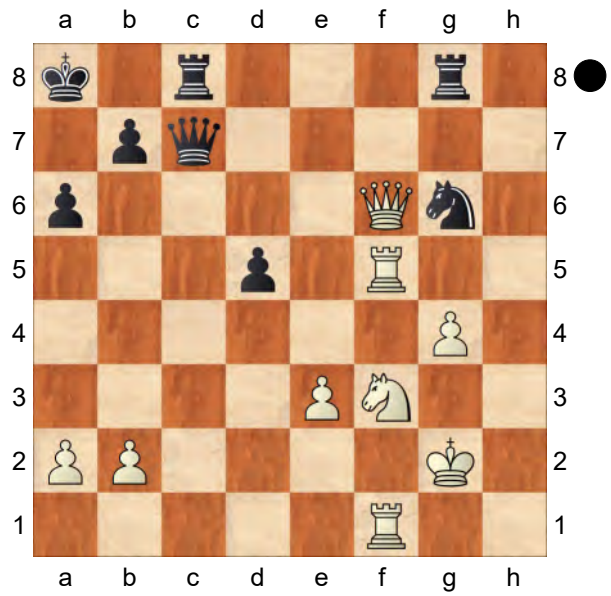
(Diagram)

35...Qc2+? Black fails to find the best way to organize his pieces in order to make his attack successful.

[35...Qc4! 36.Rg5 *(36.Nd4 Rce8!-+; 36.Nh2 Rce8-+)* 36...Rcf8-+]

36.Kg3?

[36.Rf2! Qe4 37.Kg3 Qxe3 38.Rd2∓ It is not easy for black to approach



the white king.]

36...Rce8?

[36...Qc7+! 37.Kg2 *(37.Rf4 Rce8-+)* 37...Qc4!]

37.Rxd5 Qc7+ 38.Qd6 Qh7 39.Rh5 Qf7 40.Rf5?

[40.Qd5 Qc7+ 41.Kf2∞]

[40.Re1!?∞]

40...Qc4 41.Kf2

[41.Rf2 Nh4! 42.Rg5 Nxf3 43.Rxg8 Rxg8 44.Qf4 Ne5 45.Qxc4 Nxc4 46.Kf4 Rf8+ 47.Kg3 Re8 *(47...Rxf2 48.Kxf2 Nxb2 49.g5 Nc4 50.g6 Nd6 51.g7 Ne4+ 52.Kf3 Nf6 53.e4 Kb8 54.Ke3!=)* 48.g5 Rxe3+ 49.Kf4 Looks like white has good chances to survive.]

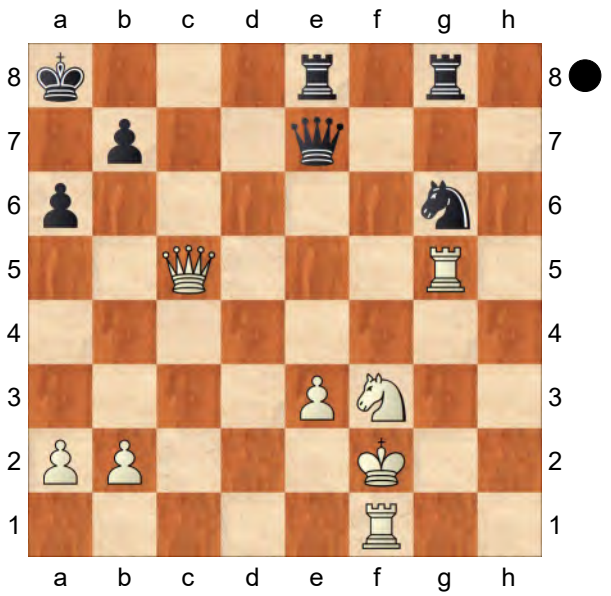
41...Qxg4 42.Rg5 Qe4 43.Qd4 Qc6 44.Qd5 White starts chasing black queen **44...Qf6! 45.Qd4 Qf7 46.Qd5 Qe7 47.Qc5**

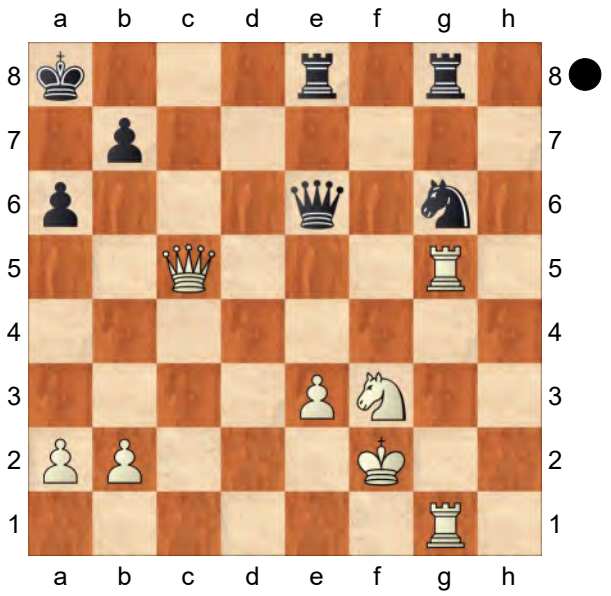
(Diagram)

Qf6

[47...Qe6! 48.Rfg1

(Diagram)





Rgf8! Black probably missed this resource which gives him big advantage. 49.Rxg6 Qe4 50.R1g3 Rc8 51.Qd4 *(51.Qh5 Rh8!)* 51...Rxf3+ 52.Rxf3 Qxg6∓ remains very difficult for white]

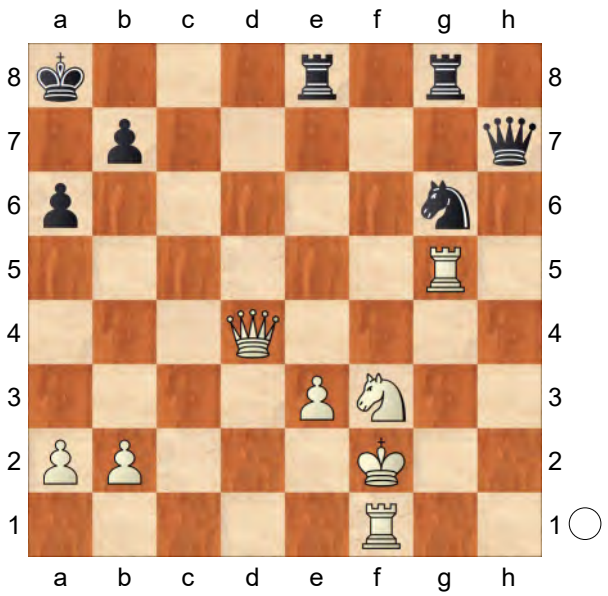
48.Qd4 Qf7 49.Qd5 Qg7?

[49...Qe7 50.Qc5 Qe6!]

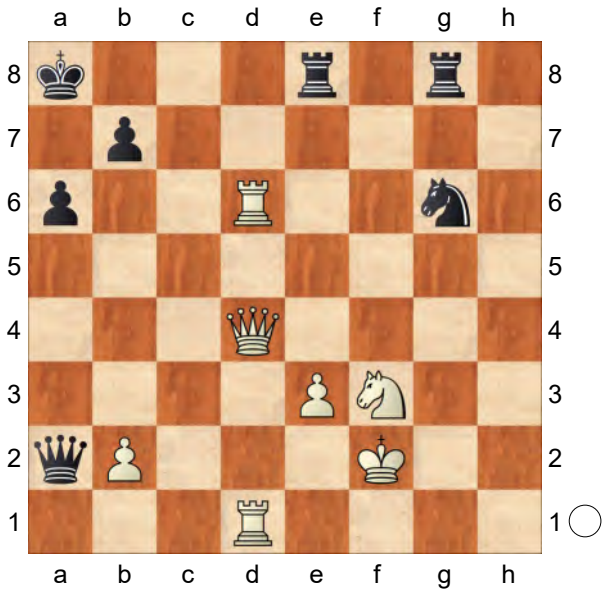
50.Qd4 Qh7

(Diagram)

51.Rfg1! White pins the black knight in



order to decrease the mobility of the black pieces. **51...Re6 52.Rd5 Qc7∞ 53.Rd1 Ree8 54.Rd7 Qc6 55.Qd5 Qb6 56.Qd4 Qe6 57.Rd6!** Again harrassing the black queen is the right way to defend **57...Qxa2**

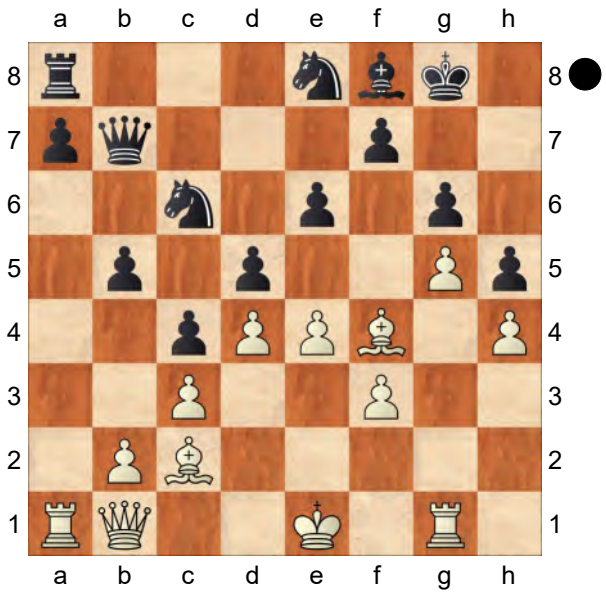


58.Qb6! White is finally ready to exchange the rooks by playing Rd8 and end this nightmare. **58...Qc4 59.Rd8+**
[59.Rd7=]
59...Rxd8 60.Rxd8+ Rxd8 61.Qxd8+ Ka7 62.Qf6 Qc2+ 63.Kg3= Qe4 64.Qc3 Ne7 65.Qc5+ Ka8 66.Kf2 Nd5 67.Qc8+ Ka7 68.Qc5+ Ka8 69.Qc8+ Ka7 70.Qc5+
½-½

D00
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
■ **Tang,Andrew** **2523**
ChessKid Play In m blitz (1.1) 01.05.23
[Kitty Kat]

D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines
1.d4 d5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bf4 e6 4.Nb5 Na6 5.e3 Be7 6.Nf3 0-0 7.h4 c5 8.c3 The position is equal. **8...Bd7 9.a4 Qb6!?N** An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.
[Predecessor: 9...Ne4 0.65/17 9...Bd7xb5 0.06 10.h5 h6 11.Ne5 0.08/20 *(*White should play *11.Bd3±* 0.59/19 *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bd3! a6 13.Na3 Nc6 14.Bxe4 -0.07/22 dxe4 0.46/22 *(14...Nxe5=* -0.07/22 *15.Bc2 Nc6)* 15.Nxd7± Qxd7 16.dxc5 Erigaisi,A (2718)-Caruana,F (2766) Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz 2022 (1.29) 0-1Erigaisi,A (2718)-Caruana,F (2766) Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz 2022 (1.29) 0-1 *(16.Nc4)*]
10.Ne5 Be8 11.Bd3 c4 12.Bc2 0.01/20
[12.Bb1± 0.39/20]
12...Bxb5 0.54/20
[12...Nb8!= 0.01/20]
13.axb5± Qxb5 14.Qb1 Threatens to win with g2-g4. **14...h5** 1.01/20
[14...Bd6± 0.58/21 might be stronger.]
15.f3 0.11/21
[White should try 15.Bg5!± 1.01/20]
15...Nb8 0.64/19

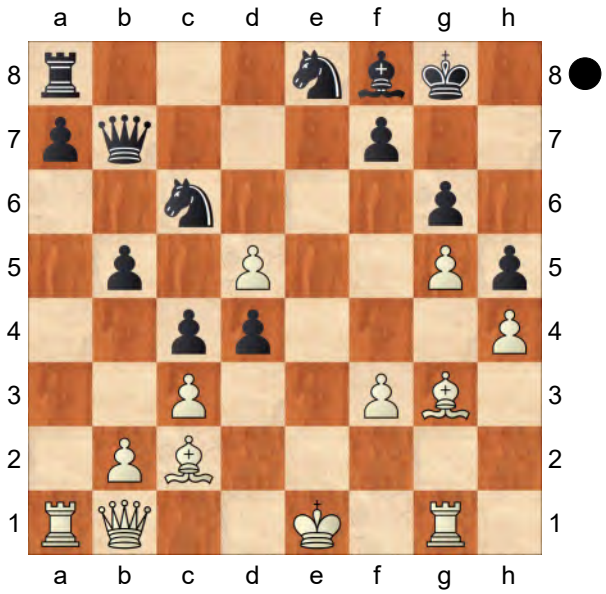
[15...Qb6= 0.11/21]
16.g4 White has compensation. **16...Nc6** 1.58/22
[16...Bd6!± 0.48/21]
17.g5± Ne8 18.Nd7 0.96/21
[18.Ba4+- 1.64/21 Qb6 19.Nd7]
18...g6? 2.75/22 **19.Ba4** 1.35/23
[19.Bxg6+- 2.75/22 fxg6 20.Qxg6+ Ng7 21.Nf6+ Rxf6 22.gxf6 Bxf6 23.Qxf6 Qxb2 24.0-0]
19...Qa6 20.Rg1 0.70/21
[Better is 20.0-0± 1.25/19]
20...b5± 21.Bc2 Qb7 22.Nxf8 Bxf8
23.e4? -0.94/20
[23.Bxg6!± 1.09/19 keeps the pressure on. fxg6 24.Qxg6+ Ng7 25.Qh6]



23...e5!∓ 24.Bg3 -3.21/19
[24.dxe5 d4 25.cxd4 *(25.e6? Ng7-+)* 25...Nxd4±]
[24.Bxe5∓ -0.79/20 Nxe5 25.dxe5]
24...exd4-+ 25.exd5

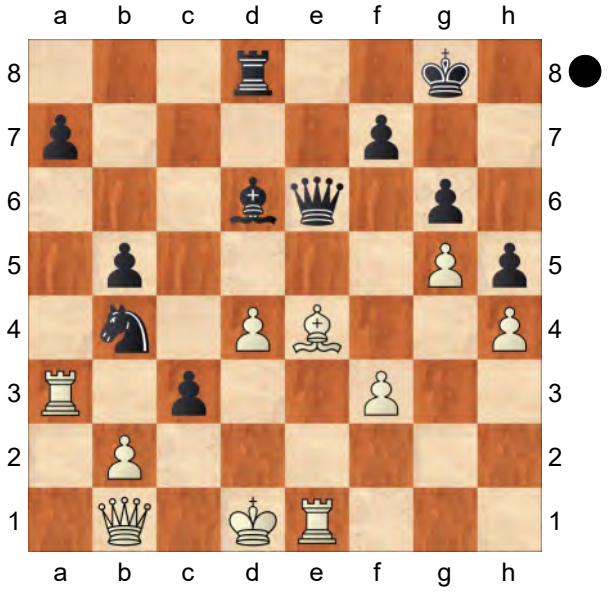
(Diagram)

Ne7 -1.03/21
[25...d3!-+ -3.59/21 is more deadly. (-

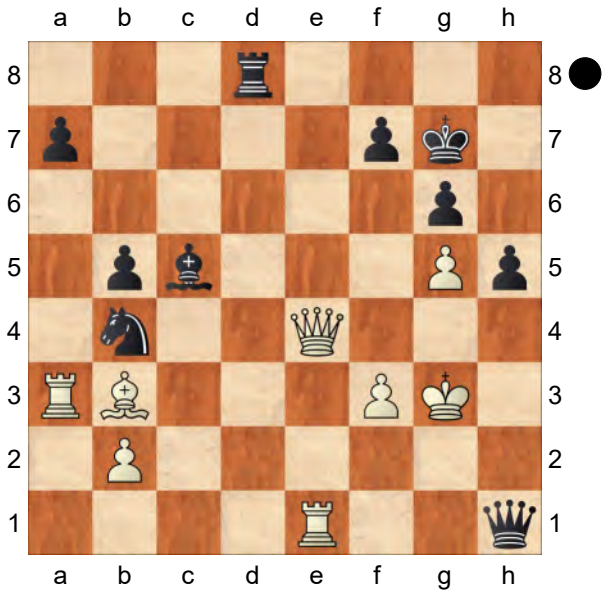


> ...Qb7-e7+) 26.Bxd3 cxd3 27.Qxd3 Na5]
26.cxd4∓ Qxd5 -0.14/21
[26...Nxd5∓ -0.95/21 Hoping for ... Ne8-g7. 27.Be5 Qb6]
27.Bf2? -1.70/21 Black continues to play with concentration.
[27.Be4= -0.14/21 Qxd4 28.Ke2]
27...Nd6 -1.08/20
[27...Qxf3? 28.Be4 Qh3 29.Bxa8+-]
[27...Qe6+-+ -1.70/21 28.Kf1 Qh3+ 29.Ke2 Nd6]
28.Be4 Qe6 29.Ra6 -2.74/21
[29.Kf1∓ -1.41/20 is a better defense. Nd5 30.Bxd5 Qxd5 31.Kg2]
29...Nd5-+ 30.Kd1? -3.73/21
[30.Bg3 -2.14/20]
30...Rd8 Strongly threatening ...Rd8-c8.
31.Bg3? -4.66/21
[31.Re1 -2.31/19]
31...c3 32.Bxd6 Bxd6
[32...Rxd6 33.Rxd6 Bxd6 34.Re1=]
33.Re1? -6.14/21
[33.Rc6 -2.89/19 Nb4 34.Rxd6 Qxd6 *(34...c2+? 35.Qxc2 Qxd6 36.Qc3-+)* 35.bxc3]
33...Nb4? -1.62/22
[33...Rc8 -6.14/21 34.Ke2 c2]

34.Ra3? -5.69/19
[34.Rxd6 -1.62/22 was the crucial defense. c2+ Zwischenzug *(34...Qxd6 35.bxc3 Nd5 36.Qb3∓)* 35.Qxc2 Qxd6 36.Qc3]



34...c2+! 35.Bxc2 Qc4 36.Bb3 -8.21/24
[⌓36.Bxg6 -4.92/23 Qxd4+ 37.Rd3 Nxd3 38.Qxd3]
36...Qxd4+ 37.Ke2 Kg7
[37...Qxh4 38.Qxg6+ *(38.Rxa7 Qh2+ 39.Kf1 Qh3+ 40.Kf2 Qg3+ 41.Ke2 Qg2+ 42.Ke3 Bc5+ 43.Kf4 Qh2+ 44.Ke4 Rd4+ 45.Ke3 Rh4#)* 38...Kh8 39.Qf6+ *(39.Qxf7 Qh2+ 40.Kf1 Qh3+ 41.Ke2 Qg2+* Skewer, Double Attack *42.Ke3 Qxg5+ 43.Ke2 Bc5)* 39...Kh7 40.Qxf7+ *(40.Qxd8 Qh2+ 41.Kd1 Bc7+-)* 40...Kh8 41.Qf6+ Kh7 42.Qh6#]
38.Kf1 Qxh4 -16.52/20
[⌓38...Bc5 -#10/20 39.Qxg6+ fxg6 *(39...Kxg6* is a self mate. *40.Bxf7+ Kg7 41.Rae3 Nc2 42.Bxh5 Nxe1 43.Re7+ Kf8 44.Rf7+ Kg8 45.Rf8+ Kxf8 46.Kxe1 Qf2#)* 40.Rxa7+ Kh8 *(40...Bxa7* leads to mate. *41.Re7+ Kh8 42.Rxa7 Nd3 43.Rh7+ Kxh7 44.Kg2 Qf2+ 45.Kh1 Nf4 46.Bg8+ Kxg8 47.b4 Qg2#)* 41.Rh7+ Decoy Kxh7 42.Re7+ Bxe7 43.Kg2 Qxb2+ 44.Kh3 Qf2 *(44...Qxb3 45.Kg3 Rd2 46.Kf4 Bd6+ 47.Ke4 Qe6#)* 45.Be6 Qf1+ *(45...Qxf3+? 46.Kh2 Qf2+ 47.Kh3 Rd3#)* 46.Kh2 Bd6+ 47.f4 Bxf4#]
39.Qe4 Qh1+
[Worse is 39...Qxg5 40.Rxa7 Kh6 41.Rxf7=]
40.Kf2 Bc5+ 41.Kg3



h4+!
Weighted Error Value: White=1.13/ Black=0.80
0-1

B23
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2689**
■ **Muradli,Mahammad** **2552**
22nd Open 2022 (5.3) 31.08.2022
[Fitzsimons,David]

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Qd2 g6 6.b3 Bh6 7.f4 f5!?

This is the second most popular move here.

[The natural 7...Nf6 is more than twice as common,1-0 (51) Womacka,M (2436)-Shevchenko,K (2542) Tegernsee 2019 [Collins,Sam]: 1-0 (48) Grischuk,A (2777)-Vachier-Lagrave,M (2767) Yekaterinburg RUS 2021 [Collins,Sam]: 0-1 (38) Shirov,A (2704) -Dominguez Perez,L (2752) Berlin 2022 [Collins,Sam]]

8.Bb2 Nf6 9.0-0-0 This is the critical try for White.

[9.Bd3 Qa5 *(9...e5?! 10.Nge2± Jones)*

A) 10.Nge2!? fxe4! 11.Nxe4 Qxd2+ 12.Kxd2 *(12.Nxd2?!* 1/2 (31)-1/2 (31) Thrish,K (2095)-Doraszelski,A (1898) Veliko Gradiste SRB 2022 *Rf8!∓* already looks favourable for Black.*)* 12...Nxe4+ 13.Bxe4 Rf8= is fine for Black, as noted by Sam in the archives (and Gawain and Carsten Hansen in their books!);

B) 10.exf5! The most challenging move. 10...Bxf5 11.Nge2

B1) 11...Bxd3?! 12.Qxd3± White is very comfortable here. Nb4?! 13.Qd2 Rc8?! *(13...g5* is Gawain's attempt to improve Black's play, but he still claims an edge for White after *14.0-0-0! gxf4 15.Kb1 Rg8 16.g3±* Black's exposed King and ragged structure certainly do seem to give White good chances here.*)* 14.a3! Nc6 15.0-0-0± was quoted by Sam in the archives, H. Nakamura - A. Grischuk, Leuven 2018 (1-0 in 42).;

B2) 11...Rf8!? Gawain considers this to be dubious, but it actually looks OK for Black. 12.Bxf5 *(12.0-0-0!?* is worth exploring, but Black should be OK after *Bg4!?⇄)*

B2a) 12...gxf5? This is the real mistake. 13.0-0-0 Rc8? *(13...0-0-0!? 14.Kb1 Rg8 15.g3±* limits White to a small edge. *)* 14.Kb1 Bg7 15.Rhe1+- It's hard to imagine Black surviving here in practice. Nb4? doesn't work due to 16.a3 Ne4 17.Nxe4 Rxc2 18.Nxd6++-;

B2b) 12...Qxf5! is a good try for Black. 13.0-0-0 g5!⇄ gives Black very decent counterplay.;

B3) 11...d5! 12.0-0-0 0-0-0 transposes to 11...0-0-0!;

B4) 11...0-0-0! 12.0-0-0 is Gawain's mainline. *(12.a3 Bxd3 13.Qxd3 Qf5 14.Rd1* D. Khismatullin - A.Sarana, Yaroslavl 2019 (0-1 in 55). *Qxd3 15.Rxd3 Rhe8=* is fine for Black, as noted by Sam in the archives. *)*

B4a) 12...Kb8 13.Kb1 Rhe8 14.a3!? e5 *(14...Bg7 15.Rhe1±* looks very harmonious for White.*)* 15.Bxf5 gxf5 16.Qe1 Bg7 17.Nd5 Qxe1 18.Rhxe1± gives White nice pressure against Black's weakened central pawns.;

B4b) 12...e5 13.Bxf5+ gxf5 14.Qe1! This manoeuvre is well-worth keeping in mind. Rhg8 *(14...Bg7 15.Kb1 Kb8 16.fxe5 dxe5 17.Qf2±*

with strong pressure.*)* 15.Qh4 Bg7 16.fxe5 dxe5 17.Rxd8+ Qxd8 *(17...Rxd8? 18.Qg5+-* wins material immediately.*)* 18.Rd1 Qe7 19.Kb1± with an edge for White.;

B4c) 12...d5! Black's best try. 13.Kb1 *(13.Bxf5+!? gxf5 14.Qe3* is given as unclear by Gawain. Black looks fine after *e5!=)* 13...d4 14.Nb5 Qxd2 15.Rxd2 Bg4 16.Nbxd4 Black is fine at the end of this forcing sequence. *(16.Rdd1 Rd7=)* 16...Nxd4 17.Bxd4 Rxd4! 18.Nxd4 Bxf4 19.h3N Gawain's suggested improvement, but he acknowledges that it's just equal after *(19.Re2 Bxe2 20.Nxe2 Be5=* 1/2-1/2 (45) Le Quang Liem (2713) -Vaibhav, S (2593) Caleta ENG 2020*)* 19...Bxd2 20.hxg4 Nxg4 21.Bxg6 Nf6=]

9...Rf8!? Gawain notes this as an "interesting try" for Black.

[9...0-0?? (F. Caruana - MVL, Stavanger 2019 (1-0 in 37)) was noted as losing for Black by Sam in the archives: 10.Bc4+!

A) 10...Kh8 11.Nh3 Na5 *(11...e5 12.Ng5+-)* 12.e5! Nxc4 13.bxc4 Ne8 14.exd6 Nxd6 15.Nb5+ Kg8 16.Qc3 Kf7 17.Qe5 Be6 18.Rhe1 Qd7 19.Nxd6+ is a nice demolition, 1ââ0 Jones - Bodnaruk, Internet (blitz) 2020;

B) 10...e6 11.Nh3 fxe4 12.Qxd6 Qxd6 13.Rxd6± Indeed, it's difficult to imagine Black saving this position in practice.]

[9...fxe4 is the most common move here.

A) 10.Bc4!? Bg4 *(10...e6?!* 0-1 (36) Bilych,O (2364)-Golubev, M (2461) chess.com INT 2022 *11.g4! Nxg4 12.Nxe4 0-0 13.Ne2 d5 14.Qc3!* gives White a strong initiative. Black's only defence is *Nge5 15.Bb5 Qa5 16.Qxa5 Nxa5 17.Bxe5 dxe4 18.c4±* but White has excellent chances here.*)* 11.Nge2 Qa5 12.Kb1 0-0-0 13.h3 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 *(14.Be6+?! Kb8 15.Nxe2 Qxd2 16.Rxd2 Rhf8=* looks at least fine for Black, 0-1 (71) Pridorozhni,A (2549) - Yakimova,M (2167) Kazan RUS 2022 *)* 14...Bxf4 15.Nxe4 Be5 16.Nxf6 exf6 17.Rd5 Qc7 18.Rhd1 Rhe8= White has enough compensation, but no more than that, 1/2 (73)-1/2 (73) Shuvalova,P (2498)-Xu,Y (2507) chess.com INT 2022;

B) 10.Nge2!? Be6= should also be OK for Black. 11.h3!? is an interesting try. *(11.Nxe4? Nxe4 12.Qe3 Rf8!* Giving back the piece is Black's best option. *13.Qxe4 Bf5∓* 0-1 (27) Ristic,L (2243)-Aditya,M (2480) Paracin SRB 2022 *)* 11...Rc8 12.g4 Bg7= White has enough compensation and should regain the e4-pawn shortly.;

C) 10.h3!? 0-0 11.Nge2 *(11.Bc4+? e6* leaves White's light-squared Bishop misplaced. *12.Kb1 d5∓* 1/2 (74)-1/2 (74) Lucas,A (2337) -Agasarov,B (2249) chess.com INT 2022*)* 11...Bg7 12.g4 Be6!? *(12...a5?! 13.Bg2 a4 14.Nxa4± d5? 15.g5+-* is just winning for White, despite

the eventual result, 0-1 (38) Eames,R (2140)-Golubev,M (2461) chess.com INT 2022*)* 13.Bg2 d5 14.Rhf1⩲ gives White promising compensation.;

D) 10.g3?! 1/2 (21)-1/2 (21) Karthikeyan,P (2406) -Stukan,M (2292) Graz AUT 2020 Rf8! 11.Kb1 Qa5= is completely fine for Black.;

E) 10.Kb1

E1) 10...Rf8

E1a) 11.Nge2

E1a1) 11...Be6?! 12.h3 Qa5 13.g4 Bg7 14.Bg2 *(14.Nxe4!? Qxd2 15.Nxd2±* is more pleasant for White. *)*

E1a11) 14...d5?! 15.g5! *(15.f5?! gxf5= 16.Nf4?? Bh6!-+* 1/2 (23)-1/2 (23) Morozevich,A (2659)-Sakaev,K (2595) Sochi RUS 2019 *)* 15...Nh5 16.Nxd5 Qxd2 *(16...Qxd5 17.Qxd5 Bxd5 18.Bxg7 Bc4!? 19.bxc4 Nxg7 20.Bxe4±* is very good for White.*)* 17.Rxd2 Bxd5 *(17...0-0-0!? 18.Bxg7 Nxg7 19.Bxe4±* is also excellent for White. *)* 18.Bxg7 Rf5 19.Bb2± was given by Sam in the archives.;

E1a12) 14...0-0-0 15.Nxe4 Nxe4 16.Qxa5 Nxa5 17.Bxe4 Bxb2 18.Kxb2 Nc6⇄ should be more or less equal, 0-1 (54) Samusenko,M (2460)-Kokarev,D (2618) Cheboksary RUS 2021;

E1a2) 11...Qa5!? 12.h3 g5!⇄ looks OK for Black.;

E1b) 11.h3!N Qa5 *(11...e5? 12.Bc4! exf4 13.g4!±* is a cool trick pointed out by Gawain. White has a strong initiative.*)* 12.g4 Bg7 13.Nge2 Be6 14.Nxe4± is given by Gawain as more pleasant for White, and I'm inclined to agree.;

E2) 10...Be6 11.h3 Qa5

E2a) 12.Nge2!? 0-0! *(12...Bg7 13.Nxe4 Qxd2 14.Nxf6+ Bxf6 15.Rxd2±* gives White the usual structural edge.*)* 13.g4 Bg7= looks fine.;

E2b) 12.g4 Bg7 13.Nxe4 *(13.Bg2?!* 1-0 (38) Shirov,A (2695)-Sarana,A (2675) chess.com INT 2022 *d5! 14.g5 Nh5 15.Nxd5 Qxd5 16.Qxd5 Bxd5 17.Bxg7 Nxg7 18.Rxd5 Nf5 19.h4 0-0 20.Rh3 e3 21.Ne2 e6=* is very solid for Black.*; 13.Nge2 Rc8 14.Bg2 d5=* is solid for Black, 0-1 (29) Harika,D (2511)-Sarana,A (2656) Riga LAT 2021*)* 13...Qxd2 14.Nxd2 0-0 15.Re1± was given as an edge for White by Sam in the archives, 1/2 (48)-1/2 (48) Kostenko,P (2473)-Ter Sahakyan,S (2611) Taleigao IND 2019;

E3) 10...0-0!?N 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Qd5+ e6 *(12...Rf7?! 13.Bc4±* is worse for Black.*)* 13.Qxe4 Rxf4 14.Qe1!?⩲ White has enough compensation,

but probably not more than that after Bg7!;

E4) 10...Qa5 The mainline here, albeit from a small sample of games.

E4a) 11.Bc4 Rf8 12.Nge2 Bg4 *(12...g5!?=* is an interesting attempt at counterplay.*)* 13.h3 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 Bxf4 15.Nxe4 Nxe4 16.Qxe4 Be5= is quite solid for Black.;

E4b) 11.Nge2 Bf5? *(11...Rf8* transposes to the Jones - Donchenko game.*)* 12.h3!± Nb4?? 0-1 (40) Fernandez,D (2487) -Sarana,A (2640) chess. com INT 2021 13.a3! Nxc2 14.Qxc2 e3 15.Rd3!+- doesn't work for Black.;

E4c) 11.h3! Bg7 *(11...Bd7?! 12.g4 Bg7 13.Nge2 0-0-0 14.Bg2±* is quite harmonious for White, 1-0 (44) Harsha,B (2509) -Nguyen Huynh Minh Huy (2419) Budapest HUN 2021 *)* 12.g4 0-0 13.Nge2 Be6

E4c1) 14.Bg2 d5 15.g5N *(15.f5?!* 1-0 (31) Morozevich,A (2659)-Kulaots, K (2538) Tallinn EST 2019 *Bf7!∓* holds together nicely for Black. *)* 15...Nh5 16.Nxd5 Qxd2 17.Rxd2 Bxb2 18.Kxb2 Bxd5 19.Rxd5 e5!= is totally fine for Black in this exact position.;

E4c2) 14.Ng3!?N d5 15.Bb5 Bf7 16.Bxc6 bxc6 17.Ncxe4 Qxd2 18.Nxd2 Gawain gives this an edge, but I think Black's Bishops give him sufficient counterplay after c5=]

[9...Qa5 10.h3! is a Gawain novelty that has received some tests: *(10.Kb1?! Rf8=* looks fine for Black, 1-0 (57) Engesser,J (2084) -Aarav,D (2144) Cattolica ITA 2022*)* 10...Rf8 *(10...fxe4 11.g4!±; 10...Bd7?* 1/2 (48)-1/2 (48) Sowul,B (2283)-Sliwerski,R (1951) Warsaw POL 2022. This is passive and allows White to gain the advantage on both side of the board: *11.g4! fxg4 12.hxg4 Nxg4 13.a3! Bg7 14.Nf3 0-0-0 15.b4±* with a big initiative.*)* 11.Bb5 fxe4 12.Nge2 Bd7 13.g4 Bg7 14.a3 Gawain again claims an edge, but I do think Black is OK following 0-0-0!=]

[9...Be6? 1-0 (29) Avinash,R (2201) - Rohit, S (2268) Budapest HUN 2021 10.exf5 Bxf5 11.Nge2± just gives White an extra tempo compared to other lines.]

10.Nge2!? Another Gawain novelty that has since been tested a bit.

[10.exf5 was covered by Sam in the archives, â -â (27) So,W (2767)-Volokitin,A (2627) Douglas ENG 2019 [Collins, Sam]]

[10.g3?! fxe4 *(10...Qa5!? 11.Kb1 fxe4= 12.Bh3?* 0-1 (22) Baglan,E (2359)-Savchenko, B (2552) lichess. org INT 2021 *Bxh3 13.Nxh3 0-0-0 14.Rhe1 d5∓* is a clear extra pawn for Black. *)* 11.Bg2 1/2 (40)-1/2 (40) Fedoseev,V (2704)-Wojtaszek,R (2686) Berlin GER 2022 Bg4! 12.Nge2 Qa5 13.Nxe4 Qxd2+ 14.Rxd2 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 0-0-0= is very comfortable for Black.]

10...Qa5

[Gawain only covers 10...fxe4?

here, giving

A) 11.Kb1 Qa5! *(11...Be6 12.h3 Qa5 13.g4 Bg7 14.Bg2 d5 15.g5! Nh5 16.Nxd5 Qxd2 17.Rxd2±* White is doing well here as Black's King is much worse-placed on e8 than on g8. *)*

A1) 12.a3!?N Another Gawain suggestion. Be6!? *(12...g5? 13.b4! Qf5 14.Ng3 Qxf4 15.Qe1! e3 16.Nb5±* with a strong initiative.*)* 13.h3 0-0-0 14.g4 Bg7 15.Nxe4 Nxe4 16.Qxa5 Nxa5 17.Bxg7 Nf2!= looks equal.;

A2) 12.h3 g5! 13.fxg5 *(13.Nd4? gxf4-+* 0-1 (36) Jones, G (2670)-Donchenko, A (2646) PlayChess INT 2020*)* 13...Bxg5 14.Qe1 h5!? *(14...Bd7 15.g4 h5!?=* is perhaps a simpler equaliser.*)* 15.Ng3 Bh4 16.Qe3 Bxg3 17.Qxg3 Be6 18.Bb5 0-0-0 19.Rhe1⩲ Black looks OK here as well after something like Ne5!?;

B) 11.h3! as an improvement over his own game against Donchenko. This has also been tested in practice: 11...e5 *(11...Qa5? 12.g4±* leaves White with a strong initiative.*; 11...Nh5? 12.Kb1! Nxf4* 1-0 (28) Greet,A (2417)-Wagner,D (2581) chess. com INT 2021 *13.Nxe4!±* leaves Black in trouble.*)* 12.Kb1

B1) 12...exf4 13.Nb5 d5 14.Nxf4

B1a) 14...Nh5?! 15.Qxd5 Bxf4 16.Qxe4+ Qe7 17.Qa4 gives White a very strong initiative for the piece. Bf5 *(17...Qb4?* by analogy with the position with the Knight on g8, doesn't work here after *18.Bc4! Qxa4 19.Rhe1+ Ne7 20.bxa4+-* with a raging attack. *a6* is met by *21.Ba3* and the Knight on e7 falls.*)* 18.Ba3 Qe4 19.Qxe4+ Bxe4 20.Bc4 a6 21.Rhe1+- regains material with a winning advantage.;

B1b) 14...Ng8! This move could prove difficult to find OTB. 15.Qxd5 *(15.g3!? a6=* is OK for Black.*)* 15...Bxf4 16.Qxe4+ Qe7 17.Qa4⩲ Gawain gives this as compensation for White, but Black is OK after the precise Qb4! 18.Qxb4 *(18.Bc4!? Qxa4 19.Rhe1+ Nge7 20.bxa4 a6!=* is fine for Black as the Knight on e7 is protected!*)* 18...Nxb4 19.Rd4 Nc6 20.Rxf4 Rxf4 21.Nc7+ Kd8 22.Nxa8 Be6= with White's Knight on a8 out of play compensating for the lost pawn.;

B2) 12...d5 13.Qe1! exf4 14.Nxe4!? *(14.Qh4!?±* also looks promising.*)* 14...Nxe4 15.Nc3 Bf5 16.Bc4±]

[10...Nxe4 11.Qe1! is the most accurate response. Black will most likely play Qa5 which could transpose to the game after 12.a3 *(*but *12.Kb1!* is even stronger. *Nf6 13.h3±)*]

11.a3

[11.h3!? Nxe4 12.Qe1!? Be6 13.g4!⩲ This is worth a try. White has sufficient compensation and Black has several reasonable ways to continue e.g., *(13.Kb1?!* is too slow:

0-0-0∓ 0-1 (34) Swinkels,R (2523) - Warmerdam,M (2608) Rotterdam NED 2021 *)* 13...Rf7!?]

11...Nxe4 12.Qe1 Be6 13.Kb1 White's set-up is surprisingly poisonous. Black's Bishops are both loose and his King will be permanently draughty no matter where it decides to take up residence. **13...Rf7 14.g4 0-0-0??** This loses tactically.

[14...Bg7! is playable for Black, although White retains some pressure following 15.b4 Qb6 16.gxf5 Nxc3+ 17.Nxc3 Bxc3 18.Bxc3 Bxf5 19.Rxd6±]

15.b4! Qb6 16.b5! Na5

[16...Nb8 is no better: 17.Nd4 Bd7 18.Nd5 Qc5 19.Nb3 Qf2 20.Qa5+- is one sample line which showcases White's crushing initiative.]

17.gxf5?! Not the most precise, but it doesn't spoil the win.

[17.Nd4+- is more accurate.]

17...gxf5

[17...Bxf5 18.Nd5 Qxb5 19.Ng3 Nc4 20.Bxc4 Qxc4 21.Rd4 Nc3+ 22.Qxc3 Qxc3 23.Nxc3+- White's extra piece should eventually tell.]

18.Nd4 Bc4?

[18...Bd7 is more resilient, but White is still winning after 19.Nd5 Qc5 20.Qxa5 Qxd5 21.Qxa7+-]

19.Nxe4 fxe4 20.Bc3 picks up the Knight on a5.

1-0

A33

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2689**

■ **Mekhitarian,Krikor Sevag** **2542**

Olympiad-44 Chennai (9.3) 07.08.2022

[David Cummings]

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.g3 Qb6 7.Ndb5 Ne5 8.Bf4 One of the sharp mainlines of the Symmetrical English with 6 g3 Qb6. **8...Nfg4 9.e3 a6** The players have reached a tabiya which has been frequently debated in high-level games over the last few years. **10.Qa4** Exploiting the pin along the a-file in order to prepare long castling. A key alternative is:

[10.h3 axb5 11.hxg4 Nxc4 with another important choice for White:

A) 12.g5 d5 13.a4 bxa4 14.Bxc4 dxc4 15.Rxa4 Rxa4 *(15...Qc6* is sharper but objectively fine for Black *)* 16.Qxa4+ Qc6 17.Qxc6+ bxc6 18.Be5 with a two-results endgame for White in Caruana-Dominguez Perez, which is included in the Archives.;

B) 12.Qb3 d5 13.Bxc4 dxc4 14.Qxb5+ Qxb5 15.Nxb5 is a quieter alternative reviewed in Fridman-Steingrimsson;

C) 12.Rc1 d5 13.b3 was featured in Giri-Nepomniachtchi, which is covered in the Archives.]

10...g5 Black has also played:

[10...Ra7 is fine for Black if followed up accurately, for example 11.h3 axb5 12.Qxb5 Qc6 13.hxg4 Nd3+! *(13...Qxh1* is not as accurate, see Topalov-Caruana in the Archives*)* 14.Bxd3 Qxh1+ 15.Bf1 Qc6 with a dynamically balanced game,

Meskovs,N (2467)-Kulaots,K (2568) Viljandi 2016 1/2-1/2 (57)]

[10...Rb8 forces White to sacrifice a piece with 11.Be2 and now axb5 12.Nxb5 g5 13.Bxg5 Qc6 14.0-0 *(14.0-0-0* is also possible, and far from clear*)* 14...b6 15.Qa7 Rb7 16.Qa8 gives White adequate compensation, with two pawns for the piece and better developed forces, Ben Ari,Y (2367)-Musyuk,L (2343) Petah Tikva 2020 1/2-1/2 (47)]

11.Bxe5 Nxe5 12.0-0-0 Rb8 13.Nd4 Reaching another important branching point. **13...Be7** A novelty, but this appears to give White hopes for an edge. Practice has shown that the g7-square is usually a better post for the f8-bishop in this setup. Not only does the bishop have more scope on the long diagonal, but the e7-square can sometimes be a useful bolt-hole for Black's queen. In fact Black has several decent alternatives here:

[13...Bg7 14.Qc2 0-0? *(14...Qc7* is called for*)* 15.g4! gave White strong attacking chances in Predke-Vachier-Lagrave, which is analyzed in the Archives.]

[13...Qc7 14.Be2 Be7 *(14...Bg7* is once again a better post for the bishop *)* 15.Kb1 Nc6 Aronian, L (2739) -Leko, P (2753) Morelia/ Linares 2008 1/2-1/2 (51), and here 16.Qc2 threatening 17 Nd5 gives White a plus]

[13...Qb4 14.Qc2 Rambaldi, F (2560)-Abdumalik, Z (2390) Doha 2015 â -â (43) b6 15.a3 Qe7 gives the queen a safe posting, and Black should be fine after following up with ... Bc8-b7.]

14.Be2 Qb4 15.Qc2 Declining the queen trade and offering a sacrifice of the c4-pawn. White is banking on his lead in development and the fact that Black's queen is exposed. **15...Nxc4** Instead of grabbing the pawn, Black should perhaps consider a pawn sac of his own in search of counterplay:

[15...b5 and now 16.cxb5 Bb7 17.Rhf1 axb5 18.Ndxb5 g4 leaves Black with some compensation, since White's extra pawn is in front of the king, so it is harder for White to consolidate.]

16.a3 Nxa3 Black needs to take the plunge with this piece sac, since:

[16...Qc5 17.Ne4 Qb6 18.Bxc4 d5 19.Bxd5 exd5 20.Nc3 just leaves White with a much superior structure and a clear advantage.]

17.bxa3 Qxa3+ Material is roughly balanced (3 pawns for a piece) but White's more active pieces outweigh the risk to White's exposed king. **18.Kd2 d5** After this, White starts to establish a grip on the position. Instead:

[18...b5 is more active. After 19.Ra1 Qd6 20.Rhc1 Bb7 Black is still in the game.]

19.Rb1 Bd7 Now:

[19...b5 can be well met by 20.Nc6]

20.Rb3 Qd6 21.Rhb1 b5 22.Bxb5! An important tactical blow. Without this, Black's pawns are rolling forward to good effect. **22...axb5 23.Ncxb5 Bxb5 24.Nxb5 Rxb5** The point is that Black can't avoid losing material here. If:

[24...Qd8 25.Nc7+ Kd7 26.Rxb8 White wins.]

25.Rxb5 0-0 26.Ke2 White is an exchange up for a pawn, but the technical task ahead is not trivial. **26...Bf6 27.f4** A bit loosening.

[27.Kf1 looks sensible, safeguarding the king before initiating pawn

breaks.]
27...h6 28.Rb6 Qd8 Over the next few moves, Black misses some chances to go for activity and make the ...d5-d4 break to open up White's king. Here:
[28...Qa3 29.f5 d4 is a better attempt at counterplay.]
29.Rc6
[29.f5! was a good time for this break]
29...Bg7 30.Rd1 Qa8 31.Kf3 Qa3 32.Rd3 Qa1 33.Kg2 Ra8 34.Rd2 Qa3 35.Re2 Rd8
[35...d4 was again the best chance.]
36.f5 Finally changing the structure to open lines for the heavy pieces.
36...exf5 37.Qxf5 Qe7 38.Kf3 A curious move.
[38.Rf2 ties Black to the defence of the f7-pawn, and White remains in control.]
38...Qb7 39.Rec2 d4 Black is back with chances since White's 38th move exposed his own king. **40.exd4 Rxd4 41.Qc8+** Trading queens since otherwise White's king is too open.
41...Qxc8 42.Rxc8+ Kh7 43.R2c7 Kg6 44.Rc6+ Bf6 45.Rg8+ Kh7 46.Ra8 Be5 47.Ra7 Kg7 48.Rc5 Bb8 Opting for passive defence but White has to prove how to break through.
49.Rb7 Rd8 50.Rf5 Rf8 51.Rd5 Rc8 52.Rdd7 Rf8 53.Rb6 h5? A fatal weakening of Black's pawn structure.
[53...Rc8 54.Kg4 Rc7!? keeps Black's defences intact.]
54.Rb5 g4+ 55.Kg2 Rc8 Giving up the h5-pawn, but after:
[55...Kg6 56.Rdb7 the bishop is dominated and lost after Bd6 57.R7b6 pinning and winning!]
56.Rxh5 After this breakthrough, White quickly wraps up the game. **56...Rc2+ 57.Kf1 Kg6 58.Rb5 Bc7 59.Rb4 f5 60.Ra4 Kg5 61.Ra6 Be5 62.Re7 Bd4 63.Ree6** Black's king is caught in mating net.
1-0

A41
□ **Aditya,Mittal** **2505**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2701**
ChessKid Cup Play In blitz (6) 01.05.23
[Kitty Kat]

A41: 1 d4 d6: Tartakower System and Modern Defence
1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 g6 3.e4 Bg7 4.c4 e5 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Be3 Bg4 7.d5 Nd4 8.Be2 Bxf3! 8...Bxf3 is better than 8...Nxe2. 8...Lxf3 ist besser als 8...Sxe2.
9.Bxf3 Ne7 10.h4 c5!? Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. **11.h5 0-0N**
[Predecessor: 11...Qd7 1.28/18 11...a7-a6 0.86 12.h6 Bf8 1.57/18 *(*Black should try *12...Bf6* 1.20/21 *)* 13.Bg4± f5 14.Bh3! Ng8 15.exf5 Nxf5 2.40/20 *(15...gxf5±* 1.11/21 *16.Ne4 0-0-0)* 16.Ne4+- Hoping for g2-g4. 0-0-0 17.g4 Nxe3 18.fxe3 1-0 Markos,J (2580)-Petran,P (2324) SVK-ch op Banska Stiavnica 2013 (5)]
[11...a6 12.Be2 f5 13.hxg6 hxg6 14.Rxh8+ Bxh8 15.Bd3 Kd7 16.b4 A 42/05 2000]
12.Qd2 White is better. **12...f5 13.hxg6** 0.00/21
[13.Bg5!± 0.99/21]
13...hxg6 1.32/19
[13...Nxf3+!= 0.00/21 14.gxf3 f4]
14.exf5± gxf5 2.04/20
[14...Nexf5± 1.45/19 might work

better. 15.Be4 Nxe3 16.fxe3 Nf5]

15.Bh6 0.97/22

[15.0-0-0+- 2.04/20 and White stays clearly on top.]

15...Rf6 1.53/21

[⌓15...Ng6 0.97/22]

16.Bxg7 1.14/21

[⌓16.Bg5 1.53/21]

16...Kxg7 17.Qg5+? -0.30/21

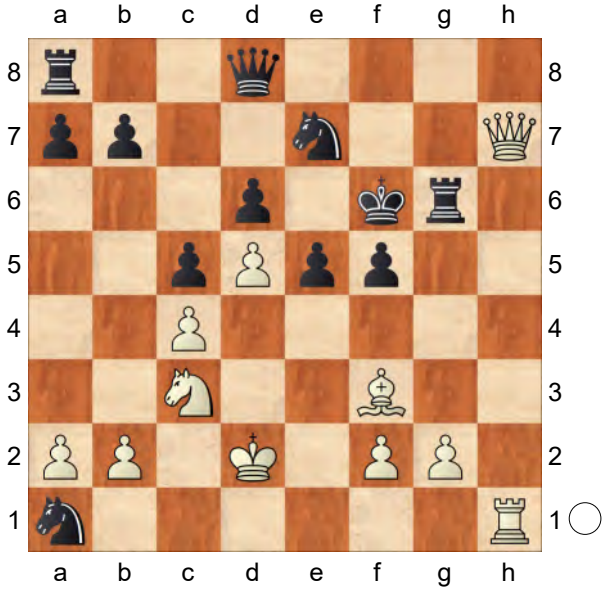
[17.Ne2± 1.26/19]

17...Rg6= 18.Qh4 Nc2+ 1.10/22

Excellent horsemanship.

[18...Kf8!∓ -0.39/20]

19.Kd2± Nxa1 20.Qh7+ Kf6



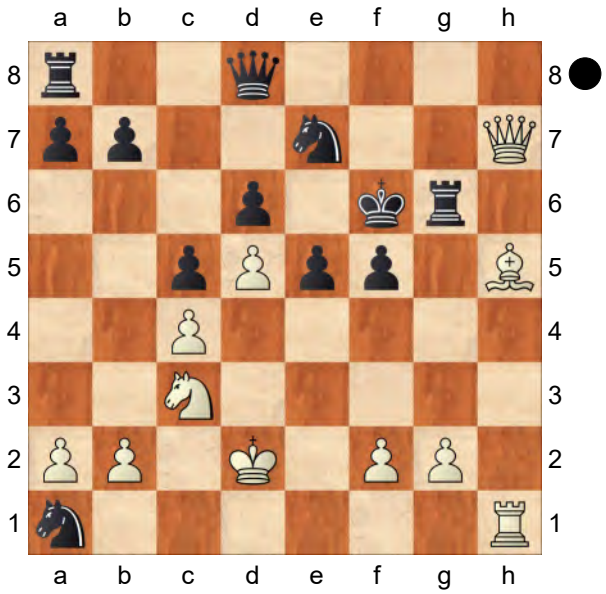
21.Bh5? -1.57/22

[21.g4!± 1.27/24 g4xf5 is the strong threat. Rg7 *(21...fxg4 22.Ne4+ Kf5 23.Qf7+; 21...Qg8? 22.gxf5 Qxh7 23.Rxh7+-)* 22.Qh6+ Kf7 23.gxf5 *(23.Rxa1 Qd7=)*]

(Diagram)

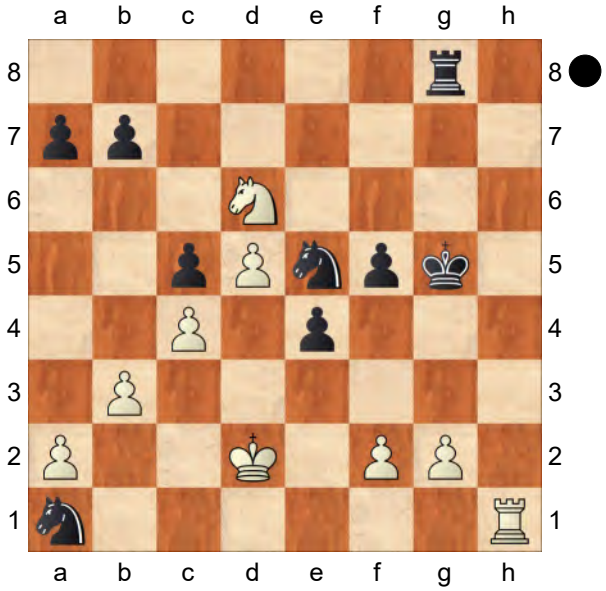
21...Qh8!∓ 22.Bxg6 Nxg6 23.Nb5 Qxh7 24.Rxh7 e4? 0.00/25

[24...Rd8-+ -1.64/26 Threatens to win with ...a7-a6. 25.Rh1 a6]



25.Nxd6= Ne5 Prevents Rh7-f7+ **26.b3** Strongly threatening Rh7-h5! **26...Rg8 27.Rh6+ Kg5 28.Rh1** -0.61/25

[28.Re6= 0.00/25 Nd3 29.Nf7+ *(29.Nxb7 Rg7∓)* 29...Kf4 30.g3+ Kf3 31.d6]



28...b6!∓ 29.Rxa1∓ Endgame. KRN-KRN **29...a6** -0.04/23

[29...Kf6∓ -0.48/24 is more appropriate. 30.g3 a6]

30.f4+= exf3 31.gxf3 Kf4 32.Rh1 Prevents Rg8-h8. **32...Rg2+ 33.Kc3**

Nxf3 34.Rf1 Black must now prevent Nd6xf5! **34...Rg3**
[34...Rxa2 35.Nxf5 Kxf5 36.Rxf3+ Ke5 37.Re3+ Kd6 38.Re6+ Kc7 39.Rh6]
35.Nc8 Ke5 36.Kb2 b5 37.d6 Ke6 Black wants to play ...b5-b4. **38.Rd1** And now d6-d7 would win. **38...Rg2+ 39.Kc1 Nd4 40.cxb5** -1.30/26
[40.b4!= -0.28/21 was the only way to keep the balance. Kd7 *(40...Rxa2 41.Kb1=; 40...bxc4 41.bxc5 Ne2+ 42.Kb2±)* 41.Ne7]
40...axb5∓
[40...Rxa2? is the wrong capture. 41.Kb1 Rg2 42.bxa6+-]
41.Na7? -6.84/21
[41.b4∓ -1.44/20]
41...Rxa2-+ Black is clearly winning.
[Worse is 41...Kxd6 42.Nxb5+ Kd5 43.Nc3+ Ke5 44.Rd2∓]
42.d7 Kxd7
[42...Rxa7? perishes. 43.d8Q *(43.d8R? Ra1+ 44.Kd2 Nxb3+ 45.Kc2 Rxd1-+)* 43...Ra1+ 44.Kd2 Nxb3+ 45.Kc3 Rxd1 46.Qxd1+-]
43.Nxb5 Ra1+ Both players deserved the win here.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.56/ Black=0.27 (precise)
0-1

D02

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2632**
■ **Bjerre,Jonas** **2586**
Tata Steel-B 84th (8) 23.01.2022
[Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar]

1.d4 Erigaisi, Arjun **1...d5 2.Nf3 Nf6** This came as a surprise so I decided to counter surprise him over the board with this calm move. **3.Bf4 Bf5 4.e3** White aims to develop quickly on the kingside instead of going for the central break. **4...e6** With this move Black decides to accept IQP and tries to look for activity **5.Bd3 Bg6 6.Ne5 Bxd3 7.cxd3 Nbd7 8.Qb3**
[8.Nc3 Nxe5 9.dxe5 is the most precise Nd7 10.h4 h5 would have been the simplest if it weren't for 11.d4 Be7 12.Qe2 c6 13.0-0-0 after which White's bishop is stranded and it's tough to roll the pawns although this still should be won with some struggle. White should not rush with 13...a5? as after 14.Kb1 he loses the pawn on a3.]
8...Rb8 9.Nc3 Preventing all kinds of Ng4/Bg4 business before playing Be3. **9...Nh5 10.Nxd7 Qxd7?! 11.Be5 f6** Qc8 with a double attack is the threat for now. **12.Bg3±** This is already a slight edge for White as the bishop on d4 looks like a monster. **12...Be7 13.e4** Unfortunate that he touched the bishop intending Bb4 which runs into Bxg7. **13...Nxg3** This was the best move available for him after touching the bishop, but this is already close to lost as Black is losing a pawn by force and it's psychologically very tough for him to continue and offer most resistance as he ended up in such a horrendous position in just 13 moves! **14.hxg3 c6 15.0-0-0 b5 16.Kb1 a5 17.g4 0-0 18.f4 a4 19.Qc2** White's aim is to win the a7 pawn and create outside passers on the queenside. **19...Qa7** Black intends to get the pawn to a4 and restrict White's b2 pawn. **20.Ne2 Rfc8 21.f5!** Putting pressure on the target. **21...exf5 22.gxf5** Trying to trade off Black's active rook after which the pawn on a4 would be extremely weak. **22...b4**

23.Qd2 b3 24.a3 c5 25.Nf4 dxe4 White finally achieved what he wanted and now it's a matter of technique. **26.Qe2 cxd4?!** Doesn't change the result of the game but it is a dubious move because it makes White's job easier. **27.Qxe4! Qd7 28.Ng6 hxg6 29.fxg6 f5 30.Qe2** Black resigned here although White still needs to show some precision. He could have tried to offer better resistance with **30...Bg5 31.Rh7** wins too: **31...Bh6 32.Rh1 Qc6 33.Qe1 Qc2+ 34.Ka1+- Qc1+** would have offered more resistance as now Rb5 can be met with
1-0

C89

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2632**
■ **Bjerre,Jonas** **2586**
Tata Steel-B 84th (8) 23.01.2022
[Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar]

Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: 'C89: Closed Ruy Lopez: Marshall Attack
' **1.e4** Erigaisi,Arjun, MH **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6** This came as a surprise so I decided to counter surprise him over the board with this calm move. **3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4** White aims to develop quickly on the kingside instead of going for the central break. **4...Nf6** With this move Black decides to accept IQP and tries to look for activity **5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.c3 d5 9.exd5** Preventing all kinds of Ng4/Bg4 business before playing Be3. **9...Nxd5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5?! 11.Rxe5 c6** Qc8 with a double attack is the threat for now. **12.d4±** This is already a slight edge for White as the bishop on d4 looks like a monster. **12...Bd6 13.Re1** Unfortunate that he touched the bishop intending Bb4 which runs into Bxg7. **13...Qh4** This was the best move available for him after touching the bishop, but this is already close to lost as Black is losing a pawn by force and it's psychologically very tough for him to continue and offer most resistance as he ended up in such a horrendous position in just 13 moves! **14.g3 Qh3 15.Be3 Bg4 16.Qd3 Rae8 17.Nd2 Re6**
[17...Qh5]
18.Qf1 Qh5 19.f3 White's aim is to win the a7 pawn and create outside passers on the queenside. **19...Rf6** Black intends to get the pawn to a4 and restrict White's b2 pawn.
[19...Nxe3 20.Qf2 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH Nd5 21.fxg4 Qxg4 22.Qf3 Qg5 23.Rxe6 fxe6 24.Ne4 Qg6 25.Qd3 h5 26.Bc2 Bf4 27.Re1 h4 28.Nc5 Qxd3 29.Nxd3 hxg3 30.hxg3 Bxg3 31.Rxe6 Rf6 32.Rxf6 gxf6 33.Nc5 a5 34.Kg2 Bd6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5 c5 (2582)-Lixa,A (2257) Deutschland 54/184 1992 1-0]
20.Qe2 -0.46/22 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: 'N'
[20.Bd1 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' Hoping for Nd2-e4.' Re8 21.Bf4 0.05/24 *(21.Bf2!± 0.46/22 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH Rxe1 22.Qxe1)* 21...Rxe1 Erigaisi, Arjun, MH: '=' 22.Qxe1 Re6 23.Be5
A) 23...Bxe5 1.43/22 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '23...Bg4-h3 0.50' 24.dxe5 Bf5 25.f4 Qg6 26.Qf2 f6 1.73/20 *(26...Re8± 1.18/19 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH)* 27.c4 1.33/20 *(27.Bb3+- 1.73/20 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH)* 27...bxc4 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '±' 28.Nxc4 Bd3 2.50/22 *(28...h5 1.77/21* (Erigaisi,Arjun, MH) is a better defense. *29.Bb3 h4)* 29.Bb3 Qe8 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH 30.Nd6

Qd7 31.Bxd5 cxd5 32.Qd4 fxe5 33.fxe5 Bb5 34.Rc1 Bc6 35.Qb6 Rxe5 36.Rxc6 Re1+ 37.Kf2 Becker,M-Henao,L IECG C2.1995.0.00007 1-0;

B) 23...Bh3 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '!'

B1) 24.f4 Qg6 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' Threatens to win with ...f7-f6.' 25.Qe4 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '!' Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' Strongly threatening Qe4xg6.' Bf5 26.Qg2 -0.62/22 *(26.Qf3=* 0.01/22 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH*)* 26...Bf8 -0.19/22 *(26...Ne3∓* -0.62/22 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH *27.Qf2 Nxd1 28.Rxd1 Bf8)* 27.Bb3 -0.63/21 *(27.Nf3=* -0.19/22 (Erigaisi,Arjun, MH) should be considered. *f6 28.Nh4* Deflection*)* 27...f6 28.Bb8 -1.58/20 *(28.Nf3!∓* -0.54/20 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH *)* 28...Kh8;

B2) 24.Qf2 Bxe5 25.f4 Bxd4 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '!' Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' (-> ...Re6-e1+)' 26.Bxh5 Bxf2+ 27.Kxf2 Nf6 28.Bf3 Kf8 29.Re1 Rd6]

[20.Qg2± 0.35/20 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH Bh3 *(20...Bxf3 21.Nxf3 Qxf3 22.Qxf3±)* 21.Qf2]

20...Bxf3 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '∓' Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: 'Black is slightly better.'

[20...Bh3 (Erigaisi,Arjun, MH) seems wilder. 21.Ne4 Rxf3 22.Nd2 Bg4]

21.Nxf3! Putting pressure on the target.

21...Rxf3 22.Bxd5 Trying to trade off Black's active rook after which the pawn on a4 would be extremely weak.

[22.Bf2 -1.38/21 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '22.Bb3xd5 -0.53' Nf4 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '!' 23.gxf4 Bxf4 24.Bg3 -5.09/21 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '?' *(24.Be3∓* -1.38/24 (Erigaisi,Arjun, MH) is a better chance. *Bxe3+ 25.Kh1)* 24...Bxg3 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '-+' 25.Bd1 Bxh2+ 26.Qxh2 Qg5+ 27.Kh1 Rf4 28.Re5 -#2/6 *(28.Bf3-+* -5.06/20 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH *Rh4* Pin *29.Re2)* 28...Rf1+]

[22.Bd1 Bxg3 23.Bc1 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH *(23.Qxf3?* Erigaisi,Arjun, MH *Qxh2+ 24.Kf1 Bxe1-+)* 23...Qg6 24.Qxf3 Bxe1+ 25.Qg4 Qd6∓]

22...Qxd5

[22...cxd5?! Erigaisi,Arjun, MH 23.Kg2 Rf5 24.Qxh5 Rxh5 25.a4±]

23.Bf2 Rf6 24.b3

[24.a4]

24...Qf5 25.Rad1 h5 White finally achieved what he wanted and now it's a matter of technique. **26.Rd3 h4?!** Doesn't change the result of the game but it is a dubious move because it makes White's job easier. **27.Re3!** -0.81/20

[27.gxh4 -0.44/20 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '∓' Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' might be stronger.' Bxh2+ Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' Decoy' is a popular line. It feels weird for Black to play e6 and then e5, but Black seems to be doing alright here as White's queen on e2 is not the best piece in the world. instead of entering the mainstream theory with 28.Kxh2 Qxf2+ 29.Qxf2 Rxf2+ 30.Kg3 Rxa2 31.b4 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH]

27...Rg6 28.c4 hxg3 29.hxg3 bxc4 30.bxc4 Black resigned here although White still needs to show some precision. He could have tried to offer better resistance with **30...c5** -0.12/24

[30...Bb4∓ -0.50/20 (Erigaisi,Arjun, MH) is more appropriate. 31.Rd1 Qh3]

31.Qf3 wins too:

[31.d5 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' keeps

more tension.' Rh6 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH 32.Re8 g5 33.Qe4]

31...Qh3

[31...Qxf3 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' simplifies'runs into 32.Rxf3 cxd4 33.Re4 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH Rb8]

32.Qg2 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '!' **32...Qd7** **33.dxc5** -1.38/20

[Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' Better is' 33.d5 -0.42/22 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '∓' I was intending to do this during the game.]

33...Bxc5 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '∓' **34.Re4+-** **Qc7** Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '↑' Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' Keeping White busy. ' would have offered more resistance as now Rb5 can be met with **35.Kh2** **Rh6+** **36.Kg1** is the most precise **36...Rf6** Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' Prevents Qg2-f3.' **37.Be3** -1.81/24

[37.Bxc5∓ -1.20/21 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH Qxc5+ 38.R1e3]

37...Rd8 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '-+' would have been the simplest if it weren't for **38.Kh2** -2.28/22

[⌓38.Kh1 -1.86/22 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH Bxe3 39.R4xe3]

38...Bxe3 **39.R4xe3** **Rh6+** **40.Kg1** after which White's bishop is stranded and it's tough to roll the pawns although this still should be won with some struggle. White should not rush with **40...Qc5?** as after

[40...Qxc4 -1.24/20 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '40...Qc7-c5 -1.80'clearly should have been played. Releasing the tension was not the best idea but his whole point with 10...Nxd4 is based on 13...Bb4 which turns out to be a blunder. 41.Re8+ also possible to start with this move but I wanted to keep it flexible as I had some Nd2 ideas in my mind in the game. Rxe8 only helps White as the queen would be better placed on d3 and White gains a tempo with h3. 42.Rxe8+ Kh7 43.Qe4+ Qxe4 44.Rxe4 Rd6 -0.77/27 *(⌓44...Rh3* -1.39/24 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH *45.Kg2 Rh5)* 45.Ra4 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' ∓' Kg6 46.Ra5 Kf6 is another version which is also fine but I assume he was unhappy to move the bishop twice. Trying to go after Black's uncastled king doesn't really help as the bishop on c5 is staring down the a7-f2 diagonal. *(46...f5 47.Kg2 Kg5* White preserves the extra pawn. *48.Kf3* is by far the main move*)* 47.Kf2 Ke6 48.Kf3?! Kd7 49.Kf4 Kc7 50.g4? Kb6∓ 51.Rh5 -1.33/20 *(*White should try *51.Rf5∓* -0.62/22 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH *)*]

41.Qf2 he loses the pawn on a3.

41...Qh5 -1.30/24 has a different approach,keeping the h3 pawn alive and playing it slow which is perfectly sensible too.

[41...Qxc4-+ -1.92/23 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH 42.Rf3 Rd5 43.Rxf7 Rg5]

42.Qg2 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '∓' Erigaisi, Arjun, MH: '

(Diagram)

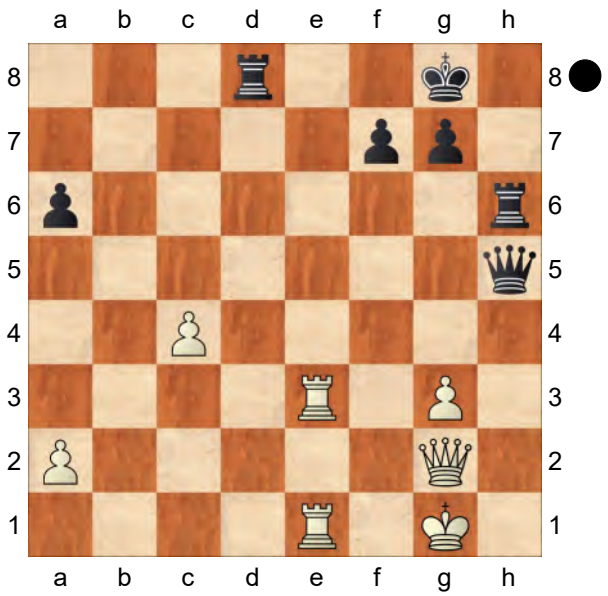
' **42...Rd2** Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '!!' Erigaisi, Arjun, MH: ' Deflection' **43.Re8+**

[43.Qxd2? Erigaisi,Arjun, MH Qh1+ 44.Kf2 Rh2#]

[43.R3e2 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH Rd4]

43...Kh7 true to the spirit - trading off Black's active rook **44.R8e2**

[44.Qxd2 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH Qh1+ 45.Kf2 Qh2+ 46.Ke3 Qxg3+ 47.Ke2 *(47.Ke4 f5+ 48.Kd4 Rd6+* Skewer *49.Kc5 Rxd2-+)* 47...Qg4+ 48.Kd3



(48.Ke3? Rh3+ 49.Kf2 Qf3+ 50.Kg1 Rh1#) 48...Rd6+ 49.Kc3 Rxd2 50.Kxd2 Qd4+ *(50...Qxc4? 51.Rh1+ Kg6 52.Rh3-+)* 51.Ke2 Qxc4+ 52.Kf2 Qxa2+ 53.R1e2 Qa1∓]

44...Qc5+ 45.Qf2 Rxe2 -1.10/26

[45...Qxc4? Erigaisi,Arjun, MH 46.Rxd2 Rh5 47.Rf1+-]

[45...Rd4-+ -1.65/24 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH 46.Re5 Qxc4]

46.Rxe2 -2.16/22

[46.Qxc5 -1.10/26 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '∓' Rxe1+ 47.Kg2 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH]

46...Qxc4 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '-+' Erigaisi, Arjun, MH: 'Endgame. KQR-KQR' and White is on the verge of winning.

47.Qf5+ g6 48.Qe4 -3.92/24

[48.Qf2 -2.14/24 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH]

48...Qc5+ -2.18/25

[⌓48...Qc1+ -3.92/24 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH 49.Re1 Qa3]

49.Kg2 Rh5 50.Rc2 Qb6 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' ...Qb6-b1 would now be deadly.'

51.Rd2 -1.99/22

[51.g4∓ -1.51/22 (Erigaisi,Arjun, MH) was necessary. Ra5 52.Qc4 Qb7+ 53.Kg3]

51...Rb5 52.a4 This is a debatable endgame. **52...Rb4** -0.73/25 runs into

[52...Rf5-+ -1.83/21 (Erigaisi,Arjun, MH) is more deadly. 53.Re2 a5]

53.Qe7+- Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '∓' Erigaisi, Arjun, MH: 'Black is better.' **53...Qc6+** Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '!'is a critical line as Black would have good drawing chances if he managed to bring the bishop to e6.

[53...Rxa4 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH 54.Qxf7+ Kh6 55.Qf8+ Kh5 56.Qh8+ *(56.Rd5+ g5+-)* 56...Kg4 57.Qh3+ *(57.Qh4+ Kf5+-)* 57...Kg5 58.Rd5+ Kf6 59.Qh8+ Ke7 60.Qg7+ Ke8 61.Qd7+ Kf8 62.Qc8+ *(62.Qxa4 Qb7+-)* 62...Kg7 63.Rd7+ *(63.Qd7+ Kf6+-)* 63...Kf6 64.Qh8+ *(64.Qf8+ Ke5+-)* 64...Ke6 65.Qe8+ Kf5 66.Rd5+ Discovered Attack Kf6 67.Qe5+ *(67.Qxa4 Qb7+-)* 67...Kf7 68.Rd7+ Kg8 69.Qg7#]

54.Kh2 Rb7

[But not 54...Qxa4?! Erigaisi,Arjun, MH 55.Rf2 *(55.Qxf7+ Kh6±)* 55...Kh6 56.Qf8+ *(56.Qxf7 Rb8=; 56.Rxf7 Qc2+ 57.Kh3 Qc8+ 58.Qd7 Qxd7+ 59.Rxd7 Rb6=)* 56...Kg5 57.Qxf7=]

55.Qh4+! Kg7 56.Qd4+ f6

[56...Qf6 -0.10/27 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '56...f7-f6 -1.12' 57.Qxf6+ Kxf6 58.Rd6+ Kf5 59.Rxa6 is an excellent advantage for White as his light-squared bishop spits fire on the poor d5 pawn.]

57.a5 g5 -0.81/26

[⌓57...Re7 -1.17/23 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH 58.Qd5 Qxd5 59.Rxd5 Re6]

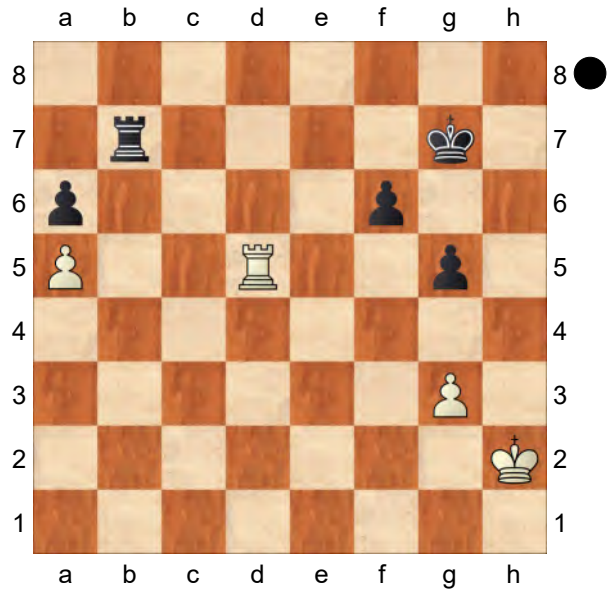
58.Qd5 -1.22/25 The whole point is now White's own rook is not blocking its own pawn, unlike after 22.Rxa5. This is winning but some technique is still required.

[⌓58.Qd6 -0.81/26 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH

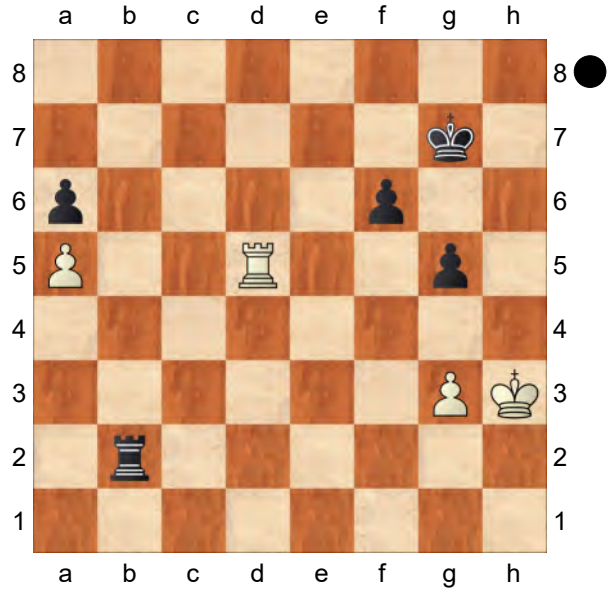
Qf3 59.Qe6]

58...Qb5 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '
Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.22 (precise) . Loss on time!?'

[58...Qxd5 59.Rxd5 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '



' Rb2+ Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '!' White is kind of paralyzed and Black gets good chances to hold. 60.Kh3 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '



' Ra2 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '!' and Black has decent drawing chances as the R on a5 is badly placed 61.Rc5 Kg6+- -0.01/32 *(61...Ra3∓* -1.12/31 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH *62.Rc7+ Kg6)* Hence 62.g4! Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '=!'would have been a good move here: Ra3+ 63.Kg2 Kf7 64.Rc7+ Ke8 is what I was expecting during the game. *(64...Ke6* Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' ...Ke6-d6! is the strong threat.' *65.Rc6+ Ke5 66.Rxa6; 64...Kg6+-)*

A) 65.Rc5 -1.37/33 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: '65.Rc7-c6 -0.01'is another variation that I considered during the game but keeping the queens only helps White as White's queen is superior to Black's Kd7 66.Rf5 Ke6 and White keeps a good advantage as Black's setup is not harmonious 67.Rc5 -1.47/28 *(⌓67.Kh2* -1.07/29 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH *)*;

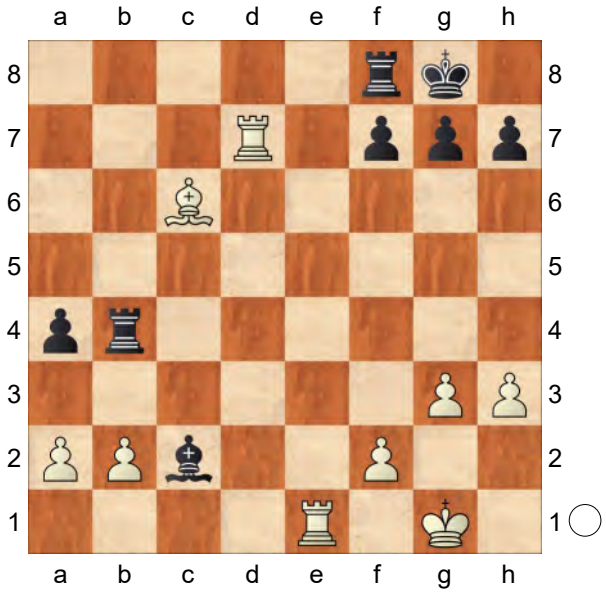
B) 65.Rc6 Rxa5 Erigaisi,Arjun, MH: ' White must now prevent ... Ke8-f7.' 66.Rxf6! Kd7 *(66...Ra2+* taking this pawn is a bad idea as after *67.Kg3 a5 68.Rf5* I have a clear 2 pawn majority on the queenside and my pawns will soon start marching down the board. *)* 67.Kg3 although the material is equal White's activity and the outside passer on the queenside give him a big advantage. Kc7 68.Kf3 Kb7 is also possible with fair chances of converting this into a win. 69.Rf7+ is also possible but the that pawn is mine in any case]

1-0

B44

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2632**
■ **Bjerre,Jonas** **2586**
Tata Steel Challengers (8.1) 23.01.2022
[Kitty Kat]

B44: Sicilian: Taimanov: 5 Nb5
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2 d5 5.exd5 exd5 6.0-0 Nf6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Be7 9.h3 Dodges Bc8-g4
[9.Nc3 0-0 10.Be3 Ne5 11.Bf4 Nc6 12.Re1 Bg4 13.Qd2 Rc8 14.h3 Bd7 15.Nb3 Be6 16.Rad1 Qd7 17.Kh2 Rfd8 18.Bg5 b6 19.Qf4 Nh5 20.Qh4 Nf6 21.Qf4 Nh5 22.Qf3 Nf6 23.Qe2 Re8 Moiseenko,A (2707)-10.♗f6 gf6 11. ♗e2 ♘c6 7 (2477) 14th Open Valle d'Aosta 2006 (2) 1-0]
9...0-0 10.Be3N
[10.Nc3 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Bf5 12.Nxd5 Bxc2 13.Nxe7+ Qxe7 14.Bg5 Rfd8 15.Qf4 Rd6 16.Rfe1 Qf8 17.Rac1 Bg6 18.Bxb7 Rb8 19.Bxf6 Rxf6 20.Qa4 Bf5 21.Qxa7 Bxh3 22.Qxb8 Qxb8 23.Rc8+ Bxc8 24.Re8# 3.e5 c5 4.dc5 e6 5. ♘f3 (2003)-Patino Garcia,C (2075) Saint Louis Saint Louis USA 2015 (8) 1-0]
10...Nxd4 0.58/22
[10...Bb4= 0.22/22 was preferrable.]
11.Bxd4± Bf5 12.Nc3 Ne4 13.Re1 Bf6 1.20/20
[⌓13...Re8 0.76/22]
14.Bxf6±
[14.Bxe4?! dxe4 15.Bxf6 Qxf6=]
14...Nxf6 15.Nxd5
[15.Bxd5?! Bxh3 16.Bh1 *(16.Bxb7 Rb8=)* 16...Bg4=]
15...Nxd5 16.Qxd5 Qxd5 17.Bxd5 Bxc2 18.Re7 Rad8 19.Bxb7 White is more active. **19...a5 20.Rae1 a4 21.Bc6** Re7-e8 is the strong threat.
21...Rd4 1.68/20
[21...g6± 1.17/18 is a better defense. 22.Ra7 Rd2]
22.Rd7+- White is clearly better.
22...Rb4



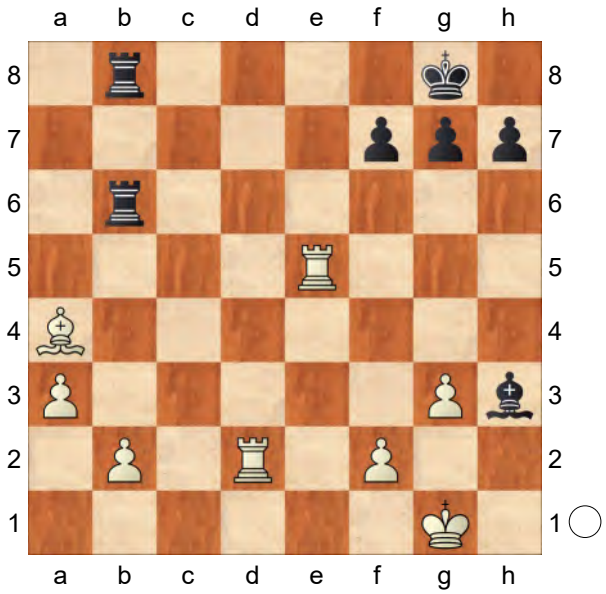
23.Rd2! Bf5 2.11/21
[23...Rxb2? is the wrong capture. 24.Rc1 Rxa2 25.Rdxc2+- *(25.Rcxc2 Rxc2 26.Rxc2 g6+-)*]
[23...Rc4± 1.38/21 was necessary. 24.Bd5 Rcc8]
24.a3 Deflection **24...Rb6 25.Bxa4 Bxh3 26.Re5 Rfb8** 2.36/25
[26...g6 1.67/20 was called for. 27.Re3 Be6]

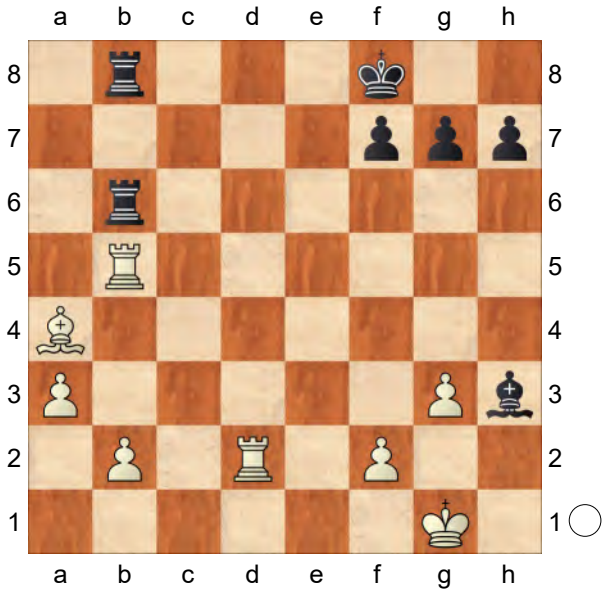
(Diagram)

27.Rb5! aiming for Rb5xb6. **27...Kf8**
[27...Rxb5 28.Bxb5 Kf8 29.a4]

(Diagram)

28.Rd8+!! Deflection **28...Rxd8 29.Rxb6 Be6 30.Bb3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07





(flawless) /Black=0.20 (precise)
1-0

B44

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2632**
■ **Bjerre,Jonas** **2586**
Tata Steel-B 84th (8) 23.01.2022
[Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar]

1.e4 Erigaisi, Arjun **1...c5 2.Nf3 e6** This came as a surprise so I decided to counter surprise him over the board with this calm move. **3.g3**

[instead of entering the mainstream theory with 3.d4]

3...Nc6 4.Bg2 White aims to develop quickly on the kingside instead of going for the central break. **4...d5** With this move Black decides to accept IQP and tries to look for activity

[4...Nf6 is by far the main move 5.d3 I was intending to do this during the game. *(5.e5* runs into *Ng4 6.Qe2 Qc7; 5.Qe2 e5* is a popular line. It feels weird for Black to play e6 and then e5, but Black seems to be doing alright here as White's queen on e2 is not the best piece in the world. *)*]

5.exd5 exd5 6.0-0 Nf6 7.d4 cxd4

[7...Be7 8.dxc5 Bxc5 is another version which is also fine but I assume he was unhappy to move the bishop twice. Trying to go after Black's uncastled king doesn't really help as the bishop on c5 is staring down the a7-f2 diagonal. *(8...0-0 9.Be3 Ng4 10.Bd4* White preserves the extra pawn. *)* 9.Re1+ Be6 10.Ng5?! 0-0 11.Nxe6 fxe6 12.Rxe6? Ne4∓]

8.Nxd4 Be7

[8...Bg4 only helps White as the queen would be better placed on d3 and White gains a tempo with h3. 9.Qd3 Be7 10.h3 Bd7 11.Nc3 0-0 12.Bf4]

9.h3 Preventing all kinds of Ng4/Bg4 business before playing Be3. **9...0-0**

10.Be3

[10.Nc3 also possible to start with this move but I wanted to keep it flexible as I had some Nd2 ideas in my mind in the game.]

10...Nxd4?!

[10...Re8 clearly should have been played. Releasing the tension was not

the best idea but his whole point with 10...Nxd4 is based on 13...Bb4 which turns out to be a blunder.]

11.Bxd4 Bf5 Qc8 with a double attack is the threat for now. **12.Nc3±** This is already a slight edge for White as the bishop on d4 looks like a monster.

12...Ne4

[12...Rc8 13.Re1]

13.Re1 Unfortunate that he touched the bishop intending Bb4 which runs into Bxg7. **13...Bf6** This was the best move available for him after touching the bishop, but this is already close to lost as Black is losing a pawn by force and it's psychologically very tough for him to continue and offer most resistance as he ended up in such a horrendous position in just 13 moves!

[13...Re8 14.Qd3 and White keeps a good advantage as Black's setup is not harmonious]

[13...Bb4 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Qd4+ Qf6 16.Qxb4+-]

[13...Nxc3 14.Bxc3 Be6 15.Bd4 Bf6 16.c3 is an excellent advantage for White as his light-squared bishop spits fire on the poor d5 pawn.]

14.Bxf6 Nxf6 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Qxd5 Qxd5

[16...Bxc2 is another variation that I considered during the game but keeping the queens only helps White as White's queen is superior to Black's 17.Qxb7]

17.Bxd5 Bxc2

[17...Bxh3 taking this pawn is a bad idea as after 18.Bxb7 Rab8 19.Re7 I have a clear 2 pawn majority on the queenside and my pawns will soon start marching down the board.]

18.Re7

[18.Bxb7 is also possible but the that pawn is mine in any case]

18...Rad8

[18...Bf5 is what I was expecting during the game. 19.Bxb7 Rab8 20.b4! *(20.Bg2 Rxb2 21.Rxa7* is also possible with fair chances of converting this into a win.*)* 20...Bxh3 21.b5 although the material is equal White's activity and the outside passer on the queenside give him a big advantage.]

19.Bxb7 White's aim is to win the a7 pawn and create outside passers on the queenside. **19...a5** Black intends to get the pawn to a4 and restrict White's b2 pawn.

[19...Bf5 20.Bg2]

20.Rae1

[Hence 20.b3! would have been a good move here: a4 21.b4]

20...a4

[20...Bf5 is a critical line as Black would have good drawing chances if he managed to bring the bishop to e6. 21.R7e5 Be6 *(21...Bxh3 22.Rxa5+-)*

A) 22.Rxa5 Rb8 23.Ra7 *(23.Bf3 Rxb2* and Black has decent drawing chances as the R on a5 is badly placed *)* 23...Rfd8 White is kind of paralyzed and Black gets good chances to hold.;

B) 22.b3! Rd7 23.Bf3 a4 24.bxa4 Bxa2 25.a5 The whole point is now White's own rook is not blocking its own pawn, unlike after 22.Rxa5. This is winning but some technique is still required.]

21.Bc6! Putting pressure on the target.

21...Rd4 22.Rd7 Trying to trade off Black's active rook after which the pawn on a4 would be extremely weak.

22...Rb4 23.Rd2 Bf5

[23...Rc4 24.Bd5 *(24.Bb5 Rc5*

25.Bd7 g6 26.Rc1 Rd8 27.Rdxc2 Rxc2 28.Rxc2 Rxd7 29.Kf1 This is a debatable endgame.*)* 24...Rcc8 25.Rc1 true to the spirit - trading off Black's active rook Bf5 26.Rxc8 Rxc8 27.Bc6 a3 28.b4 and White is on the verge of winning.]

[23...Rxb2 runs into 24.Be4+-]

24.a3

[24.Kg2 has a different approach, keeping the h3 pawn alive and playing it slow which is perfectly sensible too.]

24...Rb6 25.Bxa4 Bxh3 White finally achieved what he wanted and now it's a matter of technique. **26.Re5**

[26.Re3 is the most precise Be6 27.b4]

[26.Re8 would have been the simplest if it weren't for Rxe8 27.Bxe8 Kf8 28.Ba4 Bg4 after which White's bishop is stranded and it's tough to roll the pawns although this still should be won with some struggle.]

[White should not rush with 26.b4? as after Ra6 he loses the pawn on a3.]

26...Rfb8?! Doesn't change the result of the game but it is a dubious move because it makes White's job easier.

[26...g6 would have offered more resistance as now Rb5 can be met with 27.Rb5 Ra6]

27.Rb5! Kf8 28.Rd8+

[28.Rxb6 wins too: Rxb6 29.Bd1 Ke7 30.b4 Bd7 31.f4+-]

28...Rxd8 29.Rxb6 Be6

[He could have tried to offer better resistance with 29...g5]

30.Bb3 Black resigned here although White still needs to show some precision.

1-0

B78

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2632**

■ **Bjerre,Jonas** **2586**

Tata Steel-B 84th (8) 23.01.2022

[Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 This came as a surprise so I decided to counter surprise him over the board with this calm move. **3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4** White aims to develop quickly on the kingside instead of going for the central break. **4...Nf6** With this move Black decides to accept IQP and tries to look for activity **5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bc4** Preventing all kinds of Ng4/Bg4 business before playing Be3. **9...Bd7 10.0-0-0 Rc8?! 11.Bb3 Ne5** Qc8 with a double attack is the threat for now. **12.Kb1±** This is already a slight edge for White as the bishop on d4 looks like a monster. **12...a6 13.Rhe1** Unfortunate that he touched the bishop intending Bb4 which runs into Bxg7.

[13.g4 b5 14.Bh6 *(14.h4 a5* is another version which is also fine but I assume he was unhappy to move the bishop twice. Trying to go after Black's uncastled king doesn't really help as the bishop on c5 is staring down the a7-f2 diagonal.*; 14.g5 Nh5)*

A) 14...Rxc3

A1) 15.bxc3 Bxh6 16.Qxh6 a5+- 17.Qe3 *(17.a3)* 17...a4 18.g5 axb3 19.cxb3 Nh5 is an excellent advantage for White as his light-squared bishop spits fire on the poor d5 pawn. 20.f4 Nc6 21.Nxb5 clearly should have been played. Releasing the tension was not the best idea but his whole point

with 10...Nxd4 is based on 13...Bb4 which turns out to be a blunder. Qa5 also possible to start with this move but I wanted to keep it flexible as I had some Nd2 ideas in my mind in the game. 22.a4 only helps White as the queen would be better placed on d3 and White gains a tempo with h3. Rb8;

A2) 15.Bxg7 Rxb3 is also possible with fair chances of converting this into a win. 16.axb3 is also possible but the that pawn is mine in any case *(16.Bxf8 Rxb2+)* 16...Kxg7 taking this pawn is a bad idea as after 17.g5 Nh5 18.f4 I have a clear 2 pawn majority on the queenside and my pawns will soon start marching down the board. Nc6 is another variation that I considered during the game but keeping the queens only helps White as White's queen is superior to Black's 19.Nxc6 Bxc6 20.Qc3+ and White keeps a good advantage as Black's setup is not harmonious;

B) 14...a5 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.g5 Nh5 17.f4;

C) 14...Bxh6 is what I was expecting during the game. 15.Qxh6 a5 *(15...Rxc3! 16.bxc3 a5* although the material is equal White's activity and the outside passer on the queenside give him a big advantage. *)*]

13...b5 This was the best move available for him after touching the bishop, but this is already close to lost as Black is losing a pawn by force and it's psychologically very tough for him to continue and offer most resistance as he ended up in such a horrendous position in just 13 moves! **14.Bh6 Bxh6 15.Qxh6 Rxc3**

[15...a5 16.Ndxb5 Bxb5 The whole point is now White's own rook is not blocking its own pawn, unlike after 22. Rxa5. This is winning but some technique is still required. 17.Nxb5 a4 18.Bxa4 *(18.Bd5 Qb6+-* Hence *19.Nd4!* would have been a good move here: *Rc5)* 18...Qa5 White is kind of paralyzed and Black gets good chances to hold. 19.b3 Rc5 and Black has decent drawing chances as the R on a5 is badly placed]

16.bxc3 a5 17.f4 Neg4 18.Qh4 a4 19.Bxf7+ White's aim is to win the a7 pawn and create outside passers on the queenside.

[19.h3 axb3 20.Nxb3 and White is on the verge of winning. *(20.cxb3 e5 21.hxg4 exd4 22.Rxd4 Bxg4 23.e5* This is a debatable endgame. *Bf5+* runs into *24.Kb2+- Qa8* is a critical line as Black would have good drawing chances if he managed to bring the bishop to e6. *25.exf6 Qxg2+ 26.Ka1! Qc2 27.Qg3 Ra8)* 20...Nxe4 21.Rxe4 Nf6 22.Re3]

19...Rxf7 Black intends to get the pawn to a4 and restrict White's b2 pawn.

[19...Kxf7 20.e5]

20.e5 Nd5 21.e6! Putting pressure on the target. **21...Nxc3+**

[21...Rxf4 22.exd7 Ne5 true to the spirit - trading off Black's active rook 23.Qh3]

22.Kc1 Trying to trade off Black's active rook after which the pawn on a4 would be extremely weak.

[22.Ka1 Bxe6 23.Nxe6 Qc8 24.Rd4 after which White's bishop is stranded and it's tough to roll the pawns although this still should be won with some struggle. White should not rush with Nxa2? as after 25.Qh3 he loses the pawn on a3. Qxc2 has a different approach,keeping the h3 pawn alive and playing it slow which is perfectly sensible too. 26.Qf3]

22...Bxe6 23.Nxe6 Qa5 24.Qxg4

[24.Rd3 Black resigned here although White still needs to show some precision. He could have tried to offer better resistance with Nxa2+ 25.Kb2 wins too: Nc3 26.Qxg4 *(26.Rxc3 Qb4+* would have been the simplest if it weren't for*)* 26...a3+ 27.Kb3 *(27.Ka1* is the most precise *Qb4)* 27...Qa4+ 28.Kxc3+- Qa5+ would have offered more resistance as now Rb5 can be met with 29.Kb3 Qa4+]

24...Nxa2+ 25.Kb2 Qc3+ White finally achieved what he wanted and now it's a matter of technique. **26.Kxa2 Qxc2+?!** Doesn't change the result of the game but it is a dubious move because it makes White's job easier. **27.Ka1! Qc3+ 28.Kb1 Qb3+ 29.Ka1 Qc3+ 1-0**

D00

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2681**
■ **Harsha,Bharathakoti** **2547**
MPL Indian Chess Tour (rapid) (5.8)
[Richard Palliser]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bf4 e6 4.Nb5

[The topical move, although I still suspect many club players will prefer 4.e3 , as covered, or so I'm told, in Simon Williams's forthcoming repertoire for Everyman Chess.]

4...Na6

[Erigaisi has also faced 4...Bb4+!? 5.c3 Ba5 and following 6.e3 a6 7.Na3 Nbd7 8.Nf3 0-0 White wasted no time in regrouping with 9.Nb1 , which led in Erigaisi-Dubov, Internet (rapid) 2022, after c5!? 10.dxc5 Bc7 11.Bxc7 Qxc7 12.b4 b6 13.cxb6 Nxb6 14.Be2 e5 to a position where the engines slightly prefer White, but from a practical perspective at least it would be surprising if Black didn't have decent play for his pawn.]

5.e3 Be7 6.h4!?

[Immediately! Only in April's update did we see the no less striking and closely-related 6.Nf3 0-0 7.h4!? c6 8.Nc3 c5 in Van Foreest-Giri, Oslo Esports Cup (rapid) 2022, where I suspected that White should now go 9.h5!? .]

6...c6 7.Nc3 c5 8.Nf3 Play now looks very likely to transpose to our previous note, but actually it never does as Harsha now elects not to castle. **8...Bd7!? 9.Ne5** A thematic leap, not least when Black's knight is on the rim rather than c6. **9...Nb4?!**

[Heading for c6 is sensible, but also rather slow. Black needed to disrupt with 9...Qb6! when 10.Qd2 *(10.Nxd7 Nxd7 11.Bb5* is also possible, but here Black has at least *Rd8)* 10...Rc8 remains pretty unclear and certainly I wouldn't feel too confident as White going 11.0-0-0 here, *(*with *11.Rh3!?* perhaps a good way to cover across to c3 and so safely continue to swap b2 for b7. *)*]

10.g4! Another thematic move and one

which seizes the initiative. **10...0-0** Brave, but at least this way the knight obtains a retreat square on e8. **11.dxc5** This wasn't essential, but it certainly doesn't do White any harm to take the options of ...cxd4 and ...c4 off the table. **11...Bxc5 12.g5 Ne8 13.h5 f6?!**

[An understandable bid for freedom and to fight back on the kingside, but it seems that nothing too awful should be happening to Black after 13...Bd6 , and if 14.g6 *(14.Nxd7 Qxd7 15.a3 Nc6 16.Qd2* followed by 0-0-0 should at least favour White*)* 14...fxg6 15.hxg6 h6 .]

14.gxf6 Nxf6 15.Rg1

[Eyeing g7 while getting off the h1-a8 diagonal. This makes a lot of sense, although even after 15.Qd2 d4 16.exd4 Bxd4 17.h6]

[and 15.Qe2!? d4 16.exd4 Bxd4 17.0-0-0! White should be doing quite well.]

15...Be8!

[Good defence. Erigaisi's idea against 15...d4 was presumably 16.h6! g6 *(16...dxc3? 17.Rxg7+ Kh8 18.Nxd7 cxb2 19.Rb1 Qa5 20.Bc4!* seems to be winning for White*)* 17.a3 , and if dxc3 18.axb4 Bxb4 19.b3 when White is in control and menaces a rather large sacrifice on g6.]

16.Bh3?

[Losing the thread. White should have settled for simply 16.h6 g6 17.a3 Nc6 and only then 18.Bh3 , thereby preserving control and a definite plus.]

16...Nxh5!

[16...Bxh5!? 17.Bh6 g6 was also promising.]

17.Bxe6+ Kh8 18.Nxd5 The point of White's play, but his huddle of centralised pieces creates a strange impression and, moreover, they are vulnerable. **18...Nxd5**

[18...Rf6! would have been hard to spot in a rapid game, but after 19.Nxf6 *(*or, and importantly, *19.Bg5 Rxe6! 20.Bxd8 Rxd8* when Black will pick up a third piece as well as the initiative for the queen*)* 19...Qxf6 there wouldn't have been anything for the king on h8 to fear, in contrast to which its counterpart would very much have felt the heat.]

19.Qxd5 Nxf4 20.exf4 Bxf2+??

[Tempting, but flawed. Instead, with 20...Qe7 21.Nd3 Bd6 22.0-0-0 Bxf4+ 23.Kb1 Bc6 Black would have been slightly for choice with his bishops and/or pressure against f2.]

21.Kxf2 Qh4+ 22.Rg3

[Or even 22.Kg2! Rxf4 23.Raf1 Qg5+ 24.Kh2 when the bishop can drop back to h3.]

22...Rd8?

[22...Qh2+ 23.Qg2 Rxf4+ was a better try, if still rather good for White after 24.Rf3 Rxf3+ 25.Nxf3 Qc7 .]

23.Nf3! Rxf4

[The black queen suddenly lacks a great square in view of 23...Qf6 24.Qe5]

[and 23...Qe7 24.Qe5 followed by Rh1.]

24.Rh1 It's all over bar a few final desperate kicks. **24...Qxh1 25.Qxd8 Rf8 26.Qe7 Qh2+ 27.Kf1 Rxf3+ 28.Rxf3 Qh1+ 29.Ke2 Qg2+ 30.Rf2 Bh5+ 31.Kd3! Bg6+ 32.Kc3 Qg3+ 33.Kc4 b5+ 34.Kd5**

1-0

E73

□ **Lalith,Babu MR** **2558**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2660**
MPL Indian Chess Tour N1 rapid (11)
[Petrov,Marian]

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Be3 Nc6 7.d5 Ne5 8.h3
[More aggressive is 8.f4 Neg4 9.Bd2 Nh6 10.Nf3 c6 *(*I looked at *10...e6* in Obregon Rivero,J-Sandoval Mercado,C, see the PGN Archive.*)* 11.a4 cxd5 12.cxd5 e6 13.dxe6 fxe6 *(13...Bxe6 14.0-0 Re8 15.Kh1 d5 16.e5 d4 17.Nb5 d3 18.Bxd3 Qxd3 19.exf6 Bxf6 20.Nc7 Bxb2 21.Nxa8 Bc4 22.Nc7 Bxa1 23.Qxa1 Rc8 24.Re1 Ng4 25.Ne8+-* 1-0 (50) Vetoshko,V (2507)-Taichman, O (2297) Terme Catez 2022*)* 14.Ng5 Nf7 15.Nxf7 Rxf7± 1/2 (49) Khanin,S (2510)-Theodorou, N (2561) Dulles 2022]
8...e6 9.Nf3
[9.f4 Ned7 10.dxe6 fxe6 11.g4 b6 12.Qc2 Bb7 13.0-0-0 Nc5= 0-1 (43) Sevian,S (2660)-Robson,R (2673) Lichess. org INT 2020]
9...Nxf3+ 10.Bxf3 Nd7 This is the main move which contains an interesting idea. **11.0-0 Bxc3** Not very common but actually a good move. **12.bxc3 e5 13.Qd2**
[13.Bh6 Re8 14.Qd2 b6 15.Bd1 Ba6= 0-1 (46) Can,E (2600)-Adhiban, B (2654) Moscow 2019]
[13.Be2 was analysed by David Vigorito, see Lumachi,G-Vocaturo,D in the Archive.]
13...b6 14.Be2 Nc5 15.Qc2 f5∓ Black has a very easy game now.
[15...Qh4 16.f4 Bxh3!?]
16.exf5
[16.f3 f4 17.Bf2 h5⟶]
16...Bxf5 17.Qc1 Bd3
[17...Ne4 18.Bf3 Qh4∓]
18.Bg5
[18.Bxd3 Nxd3 19.Qd2 Nc5 20.f4=]
18...Qd7 19.Qe3 Bxe2 20.Qxe2 Qf5 21.Bh6 Rf6 22.f4 Qd3 23.Rae1 Qxe2 24.Rxe2 Nd3 25.g3 The activity of the white pieces compensate his double pawns. **25...exf4 26.gxf4 Rf5 27.Re3 Nb2 28.Re7 Rf7 29.Rfe1 Rxe7 30.Rxe7 Nxc4**
[30...Rc8=]
31.Kf2
[31.Rxc7 Ne3 32.c4 Nf5 33.Bg5=]
31...b5?!
[31...Rc8=]
32.Rg7+ Kh8 33.Rxc7 Nb6 34.Bg7+ Kg8 35.Bd4 Nxd5 36.Rg7+ Kf8 37.Rxh7 Re8 38.Kf3 a5 39.Ra7
[39.Rd7 Re6 40.Ra7±]
39...b4 40.c4 Ne7 41.Rxa5 Rc8 42.Bf6 Rxc4 43.Bxe7+ Kxe7 44.Rb5 Ke6 45.Kg4 Rc2 46.Rxb4 Rg2+ 47.Kf3 Rxa2 48.Rb8
½-½

C07

□ **Sanal,Vahap** **2547**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2628**
Wch Rapid Almaty (3) 26.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C07: French Tarrasch: 3...c5, 4 Ngf3 and 4 exd5 Qxd5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.Ngf3 cxd4 6.Bc4 Qd6 7.0-0 Nf6 8.Nb3 Nc6 9.Nbxd4 Nxd4 10.Nxd4 a6 11.c3 Qc7 12.Bb3 Bd7 13.Qf3 Bd6 14.h3 0-0-0
[14...h6 15.Be3 0-0-0 16.Rfd1 Kb8 17.a4 Bc5 18.Bf4 e5 19.Bg3 Ka8

20.Qe2 Rde8 21.Bxf7 Re7 22.Bg6 Rf8 23.Nb5 axb5 24.axb5+ Kb8 25.Ra4 Rc8 26.b4 Bb6 27.c4 Qxc4 28.Bxe5+ Rxe5 29.Qxe5+ Belikov,V (2506)-Chernyshov,K (2569) 92/191 Voronezh 2004 1-0]

15.Bg5 Kb8!?N Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.

[15...Be5 16.Rfe1 h6 17.Bh4 Bf4 18.Bg3 Bxg3 19.Qxg3 Qxg3 20.fxg3 Rhe8 21.Rad1 Ng8 22.Rd2 Kc7 23.Rde2 Nf6 24.Nf3 Re7 8.♕d2 ♘d7 9.000-Tarrasch,S EU/MSM/IV final bd10 1994 ½-½]

[15...Rhg8 16.Rad1 h6 17.Bc1 Kb8 18.Rfe1 e5 19.Nc2 Bc6 20.Qf5 Bd7 21.Qd3 Bb5 22.Qe3 Bc6 23.Nb4 Bxb4 24.cxb4 Rxd1 25.Rxd1 g5 26.a4 Re8 27.b5 axb5 28.axb5 Bxb5 29.Bd2 Rd8 30.Ra1 Tiviakov,S (2628)-Huzman,A (2591) EU-Cup 18th Kallithea 2002 (7.2) 1-0]

16.Rad1 White has an edge. **16...Bc8** 0.88/21

[16...Bh2+= 0.30/21 17.Kh1 Be5]

17.Rfe1!± Rhg8 18.Nc2N 0.38/24

[Vorgänger: 18.Bc2!± 0.82/19 h6 19.Bxf6 gxf6 20.Qxf6 e5 21.Nf5 Rg6 22.Qh4 Rdg8 23.Nxd6 Rxd6 24.Rxd6 Qxd6 1-0 (36) Lu,S (2624)-Erigaisi,A (2526) Xingtai 2019]

18...h6 19.Bc1 Bh2+ 20.Kh1 Rd1xd8 is the strong threat. **20...b6 21.Qe3** -0.25/25

[⌓21.Qe2 0.14/24]

21...Bd6= 22.Qe2 Bb7 23.Qc4

[23.Nb4 is more complex. Ka7 24.Qc4 Qxc4 25.Bxc4 g5 26.Be3]

23...g5 24.Qxc7+ Kxc7 25.Kg1 h5 26.Ne3 -0.44/19

[26.Nd4= -0.08/21 Rde8 27.Ba4]

26...b5 27.Nf1 -0.76/24

[27.a4∓ -0.31/22]

27...Nd5 28.Bc2 Nf4 Black is more active. **29.f3 f5 30.Be3** -2.35/24

[30.a4∓ -1.00/23 was worth a try.]

30...Rg6 -1.10/21

[30...Nxg2-+ -2.35/24 has better winning chances. 31.Kxg2 g4]

31.Rd2∓ Rdg8 -0.42/20

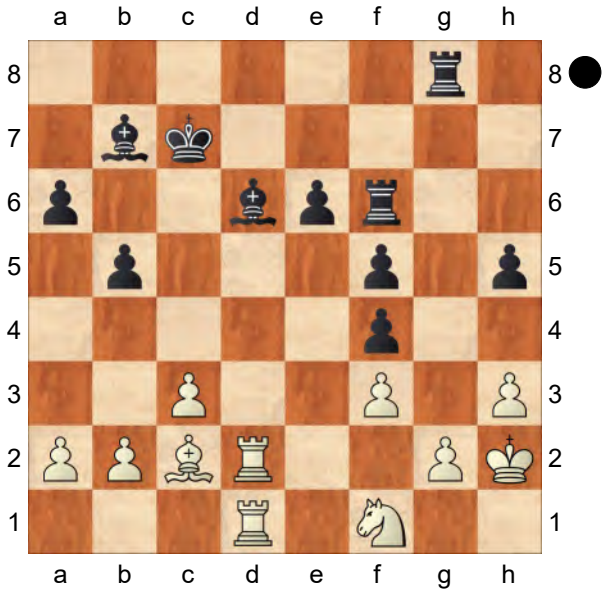
[31...g4∓ -0.81/22 32.Rxd6 Nxh3+ 33.Kh2 *(33.gxh3? loses. gxf3+-+)* 33...Rxd6 *(33...Kxd6 34.f4∓)*]

32.Bxf4 -1.23/25 Black continues to play with concentration.

[32.Bb6+!∓ -0.42/20 Kxb6 33.Rxd6+ Kc7 34.Rd4]

32...gxf4 33.Kh2 Rf6 34.Red1 -1.92/24

[34.Rde2∓ -1.29/24]



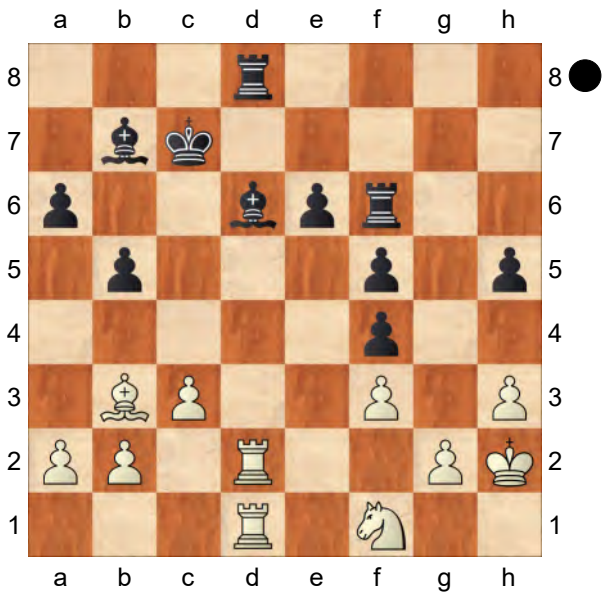
34...Rd8 -1.16/21

[34...e5!-+ -1.92/24 ...e5-e4 would now be deadly. 35.Bxf5 Rxf5 36.Rxd6 e4 37.Rd7+ Kc8 38.Rxb7 *(38.fxe4 Bxe4 39.R7d2 Rfg5-+)* 38...Kxb7 39.fxe4 Rff8]

35.Bb3 -2.33/23

[35.Re2∓ -1.16/21]

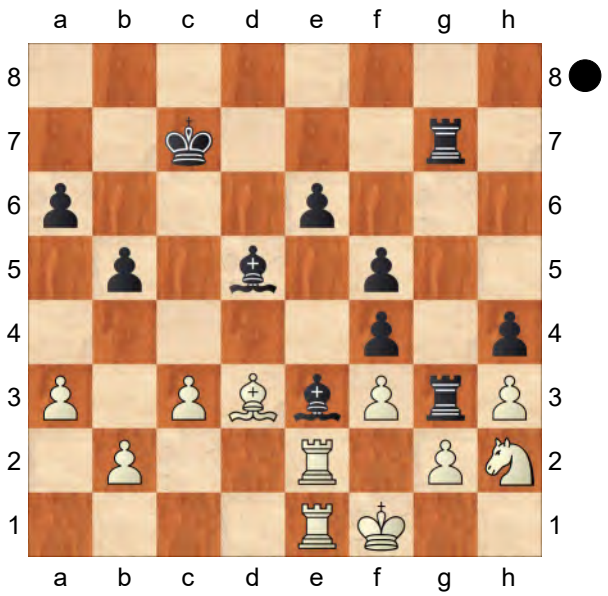
(Diagram)



35...h4!-+ 36.Kh1 Bc6 -1.25/21
[36...e5-+ -2.54/22 aiming for ...e5-e4. 37.Bd5 Bxd5 38.Rxd5 Be7 39.Rxd8 Bxd8]
37.Nh2 -2.67/21
[37.Re2∓ -1.25/21]
37...Rg6 38.Kg1? -3.46/24 White is weak on the dark squares
[38.Re2 -1.63/22]
38...Bc5+ 39.Kf1 Rdg8 40.Re2 Be3 41.a3 R8g7 42.Bc2 Rg3 Hoping for ... Bc6xf3! **43.Rde1** -8.09/21
[⌓43.Red2 -4.19/19]
43...Bd5 (-> ...Bd5-c4). This pair of bishops is nice. Black is clearly winning.
44.Bd3

(Diagram)

Rxh3!! Trapped Piece **45.Rxe3 Rxh2 46.R3e2 h3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/ Black=0.28 (precise)
0-1



A45
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
■ **Zhalmakhanov,Ramazan** **2447**
Asian Games Team Championship, Hangzhou (3.11)
[Richard Palliser]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 Ne4 3.Bf4 d5 4.e3 c5 5.Bd3 g6!? An extremely rare move at this stage and a new one for ChessPub. I wonder if it may become more popular though, in part due to this game and in part because it makes it into Stockfish's top three moves.
6.Be5?!
[A new move, ChessBase tells me, and probably not a great one. Previously, 6.dxc5!? Bg7 7.Bxe4! *(7.c3?! Nxc5 8.Bc2 Nc6* would just leave Black taking over*)* 7...Bxb2 *(7...dxe4! 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8* looks OK for Black, and if *9.Nd2! Bxb2 10.Rb1 Ba3 11.Nxe4 Na6* with rough equality *)* 8.Bxd5 Bxa1 9.c3 had given White promising compensation for the exchange in Dimitrov-Azarov, Cattolica 2022, and

soon more than that after Nc6? *(9...Nd7 10.Ne2 0-0 11.0-0 Nxc5 12.Bh6 Bf5!* seems to be the critical line *)* 10.Ne2 Qa5 11.0-0 0-0 12.Nd2 when Black's bishop was trapped in view of Bxc3 13.Nb3 Qb4 14.a3! .] [There's also the simple 6.Nd2 , after which Nxd2 7.Qxd2 Bg7 8.c3 Nc6 9.Nf3 can't be any more than a tiny bit better for White.]

6...f6 Correctly forcing the pace. **7.Bxb8** [7.Bg3 cxd4 8.exd4 Bg7 would merely give Black active and easy play.]

7...Rxb8 Presumably Erigaisi hoped there was a good way to show up ...f6 as being weakening, but there doesn't seem to be one and already Black is just quite comfortable from what I can see. **8.Nf3?!** [8.c3 would be safer, if still nothing for Black to worry about after Bg7 9.Nd2 f5 .]

8...Bg7?! [With the engine idea 8...Qb6 9.Qc1 Bh6! Black might have seized an early initiative and advantage.]

9.0-0 cxd4 10.exd4 0-0 [Another tempting possibility for Black is 10...Bg4!? 11.c4 f5 when 12.cxd5 0-0 would transpose to the game.]

11.c4 Attempting to destabilise Black in the centre, but he isn't forced by any means to go ...e6. **11...Bg4!** The first of a two-part sequence which leaves Black actively placed, as well as again with easy play. **12.cxd5 f5** The key follow-up, maintaining control of e4. I can't believe that Erigaisi was feeling too happy here as White and it's safe to say that his opening hasn't been a huge success. **13.Be2** [This seems sensible, although if White didn't mind simplification, 13.Nc3!? Bxf3 14.gxf3 *(14.Qxf3? Nd2* wins the exchange*)* 14...Nxc3 15.bxc3 Qxd5 *(15...Kh8!? 16.Qb3 Qc7* offers Black pleasant compensation, but is it any more than that? *)* 16.Qb3 wasn't ridiculous, already looking to the drawing potential of the opposite-coloured bishops.]

13...Qb6 14.Qb3 [Only now does Erigaisi look to simplify. I can't help wondering if the early events in the game had thrown him slightly off kilter. Here there was also 14.Nbd2!? , fighting for the initiative, and if Bxf3 15.Bxf3 Qxb2 16.Bxe4 fxe4 17.Nxe4 when both sides have their trumps and all three results would be possible, even after Rf4 18.Re1! Bxd4 19.Rb1 Bxf2+ 20.Nxf2 Qxf2+ 21.Kh1 .]

14...Qxb3 15.axb3 Bxf3 [A decent case might also be made for activating the black rooks beginning with 15...Rfc8!? .]

16.gxf3 [Retaining pieces and a fair degree of complexity. I dare say that Erigaisi didn't want to have to grovel against his Kazakh IM opponent, although after 16.Bxf3 Bxd4 17.Bxe4 fxe4 White should be OK if he finds 18.Ra4! .]

16...Ng5 17.Rd1 Prudently electing to hold on to the bishop-obstructing pawn on d4. **17...Nh3+!** Zhalmakhanov finds just about the only way to retain a degree of pressure, by causing a few problems for the white king. **18.Kf1 a6 19.b4!** [A precise choice, whereas 19.Nc3 would have allowed Rf6! 20.b4 b5

followed by ...Nf4 when Black would have been in full control.]

19...Nf4

[Now 19...Rf6 20.b5 should be OK for White, as shown by axb5 21.Bxb5 Rb6 22.Ra5 Nf4 23.Na3 , with a draw the most likely result.]

20.Nc3 Rfd8 21.Ra5! Correctly fighting to maintain both d-pawns. Black's position is quite pleasant here, but it's far from easy to see how he's supposed to turn that into more than a draw.

21...Kf8!? A fairly clever try, stepping off the a2-g8 diagonal and provoking Bc4.

22.Bc4?

[Erigaisi would love to follow up with Rc5, but he won't be allowed the time for that. Instead, 22.b5! was correct when Bf6!? *(22...Nxd5 23.bxa6 Nxc3 24.bxc3 bxa6 25.Rxa6* is very likely to end in a draw*)* 23.Bc4 axb5 24.Rxb5 Kg7 would have retained the rough balance.]

22...b5! 23.Bb3 Rb6 Black continues to outplay his much high-rated opponent. Just what is that rook now doing on a5?

24.Raa1

[24.Rda1 doesn't especially help in view of Rdd6 .]

24...Bf6 25.Ke1 Ng2+ 26.Ke2 Nf4+ 27.Ke1 Ng2+ 28.Kf1 Nf4 29.Ke1 Wisely acquiescing to the repetition.

29...Ng2+?

[With such pleasant control of the position and White so tied down, Black should really have continued. Following, for example, 29...Kg7 30.Kf1 h5! 31.Ra3 h4 White would have found himself getting squeezed and even the radical 32.Ne2!? Nxd5 33.Bxd5 Rxd5 34.f4 would have left him somewhat worse and having to fight hard to hold a draw.]

½-½

A23

□ **Kjartansson,Gudmundur 2456**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2728**

37th ECC Open 2022 (2.4) 04.10.2022

[David Cummings]

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 Bc5 This popular try continues to crop up on a regular basis. **4.Nc3** By far White's most common move overall, but the alternative:

[4.d3 has been tested in a number of high-level games, including 0-0 5.Nc3 c6 6.Nf3 d6 7.0-0 a5 8.d4 exd4 9.Nxd4 a4 which was played in Ding Liren-Firouzja from the 2022 Candidates - see the game in the Archives.]

4...c6 5.e3 White goes for the logical setup involving Ng1-e2 and an early d2-d4, also eschewing the sharp complications that arise after:

[5.Nf3 e4 6.Nh4 d5 7.cxd5 cxd5 8.d3 Ng4 9.0-0 g5 which is analyzed in Liu-Ju Wenjun and earlier games in the Archives.]

5...Bb6 A prophylactic move, anticipating White's d2-d4 push, while remaining flexible. In particular, keeping options open for either ...d7-d5 or ...d7-d6. Black has also played:

[5...d6 This is a little passive, and allows White to achieve the desired setup. Now 6.Nge2 a5 7.d4 Ba7 8.b3 Na6 9.Bb2 0-0 10.h3 Re8 11.Qd2 Bf5 12.0-0 h6 13.Rad1 was pleasant for White in Kosten-Fedorchuk, which is included in the Archives.]

[5...d5 6.cxd5 and now:
A) 6...0-0!? offering a pawn, is possible. Now 7.Nge2 *(7.dxc6 Nxc6* gives Black good compensation due to White's exposure on the light squares.*)* 7...Nxd5 8.Nxd5 cxd5 9.d4 exd4 10.Nxd4 Nc6 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.0-0 Qb6 was balanced in Zarubitski,V (2460)-Goganov,A (2527) Cheliabinsk 2022 0-1 (47)
B) 6...Nxd5 if Black commits to this capture immediately (rather than waiting for 6...0-0 7 Nge2), White has the option of 7.Nf3 which is a more active post for the knight.;
C) 6...cxd5 7.d4 exd4 8.exd4 Bb4 9.Nge2 0-0 10.0-0 h6 11.Nf4 Bxc3 12.bxc3 Nc6 13.Re1 Qa5 14.Bd2 Qd8 and now 15.Qc2 leaves White with an edge, as he has the bishop pair and move active pieces. *(15.Bc1 Qa5 16.Bd2 Qd8 17.Bc1* was instead, a repetition draw in â-â (17) Xu,Y (2554)-Ju,W (2560) Xinghua 2021*)*]

6.d4
[6.Nge2 d5 7.cxd5 cxd5 8.d4 e4 This illustrates the point behind the move 5...Bb6 - Black is not forced to trade on the d4-square and instead has the space-gaining ...e5-e4 thrust available. 9.0-0 0-0 10.f3 exf3 11.Bxf3 was played in Sawyer,B (2172)-Wagner,D (2584) Chess.com INT 2022 0-1 (30), and here Nc6 12.Nf4 Be6 is fine for Black.]

6...exd4 7.exd4 0-0 Instead:
[7...d5 is also playable. After 8.cxd5 Nxd5 *(8...cxd5* is inadvisable due to *9.Bg5)* 9.Qe2+ Be6 10.Nf3 0-0 11.0-0 Re8 12.Ng5 Bf5 13.Qf3 Bg6 14.Nxd5 cxd5 the position is balanced, but White now went wrong with 15.Qg4?! *(15.Qxd5* is equal *)* 15...h6 16.Nh3 Nd7 17.Be3 Nf6 and Black's pieces are better coordinated, Piorun,K (2623)-Navara,D (2703) Germany 2021 0-1 (56)]

8.Nge2 d6 Compared to lines with ...d7-d5, this keeps more tension in the position, so retains more long term chances for Black to play for a win. On the other hand, it does cede White more space, and likely an objective advantage as well.
[8...d5 9.cxd5 Nxd5 Dann,M (2508)-Kurmann,O (2424) Mulhouse 2021 â-â (21), is similar to Piorun-Navara from the previous note, and is fine for Black.]

9.0-0 Re8 10.Bf4 The first new move, but perhaps not the most purposeful place for the bishop. If White plays Bc1-e3 instead, the d4-pawn is defended and this frees up White's queen and e2-knight for active play, for example:
[10.h3 d5 Black decides to play this even with a loss of tempo. 11.cxd5 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 cxd5 13.Nf4 Nc6 14.Be3 Be6 â-â (30) Firsching,G (2502)-Koenig,U (2451) Remote email 2014 and now 15.a4 leaves White with slight pressure.]
[10.Be3 is also possible. Now Be6 11.Qb3 Qc8 12.Nf4 leaves White for choice.]

10...Be6 11.Qd3 After this, the game gravitates towards equality. Alternatively:
[11.d5 is more ambitious, although after cxd5 12.cxd5 Bg4 13.Qd2 Nbd7 14.Bxd6 Bxe2 15.Nxe2 Ng4 Black gets sufficient counterplay.]

11...Na6 12.a3 Qd7 13.Rfe1 d5 14.c5 Bd8 15.b4 Nc7 16.a4 Bf5 Black is a bit cramped but has no real problems.

17.Qd2 Ne6 18.Bd6 Be7 19.Bxe7 Rxe7 20.Nf4 Rae8 21.Nxe6 Rxe6 22.Rxe6 Qxe6 23.b5 h5 Around here, both players underestimate White's potential chances on the queenside.

[23...a6 would stop further advances, and then 24.bxa6 bxa6 25.a5 *(25.Bf1* is met with *a5)* 25...Bh3 is level.]

24.h4 After:

[24.a5! a6 25.bxa6 bxa6 26.Bf1 Black is forced to defend the weak a6-pawn.]

24...Bh3 25.Qf4 Bxg2 26.Kxg2 Ng4 27.bxc6 bxc6 28.Rb1 Qc8 29.Ne2 f6 30.Nc3 Both players are probing for chances. **30...Kh7 31.Rb2 Qa6 32.Rb8 Rxb8 33.Qxb8 Qd3 34.Qb1 Qxb1 35.Nxb1 g5** After the trade of heavy pieces, the knight endgame remains balanced. **36.Nd2 gxh4 37.gxh4 Nh6 38.Nb3 Nf5 39.Kf3 Nxh4+ 40.Kf4 Kg7 41.Na5 Ng6+ 42.Kf5 h4 43.Kg4 Ne7 44.Kxh4 Nf5+ 45.Kg4 Nxd4** Black has won a pawn, but White has things under control. **46.Kf4 Kf7 47.Ke3 Nf5+ 48.Kf4 Ne7 49.Nb3 Kg6 50.Nd4 Kh5 51.Ne6 Kh4 52.Nf8 Kh3 53.Nd7 Kg2 54.Nxf6 Kxf2 55.Ke5 Ke3 56.Kd6 d4 57.Ng4+ Kf3 58.Ne5+ Ke4 59.Nc4 d3 60.Kxe7 Kd5** All of White's pawns will disappear, but the knight holds. **61.Nb2 d2 62.Kf6 a5 63.Nd1 Kxc5 64.Ke5 Kb4 65.Kd4 Kxa4 66.Kc3 c5 67.Nb2+**

½-½

D00

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun 2702**

■ **Madaminov,Mukhiddin 2431**

Asian Continental op 20th (6) 08.06.23

[Kitty Kat]

D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5N

[2...c5 3.d5 d6 4.e4 g6 5.Nf3 *(5.f4 Bg7 6.Bb5+ Nfd7 7.a4 Na6 8.Nf3 Nc7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 e6 11.dxe6 fxe6 12.f5 Ne5 13.fxg6 hxg6 14.Be3 Bd7 15.Nxe5 Rxf1+ 16.Bxf1 Bxe5 17.Qg4 Qf6 18.Bc4 Rf8 19.Rd1 Rf7* Leisebein,P (1200)-Grott,P (1200) SE014 www.desc-online.de 2000 ½-½ *)* 5...Bg7 6.Be2 *(6.Bc4 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Bf4 Ne8 9.Re1 Nb6 10.Bf1 e5 11.dxe6 Bxe6 12.a4 Nd7 13.Nb5 Bg4 14.Nxd6 Be5 15.Bxe5 Bxf3 16.Qd5 Nc7 17.Nf5 gxf5 18.Bxc7 Qxc7 19.Qxf5 Bxg2 20.Bxg2 Rae8* Atalik,S (2561)-Epishin,V (2605) CCA-ICC op Lake George 2005 (9) ½-½ *21.Ra3 Ne5 22.Rg3+ Ng6 23.e5 Qd8 24.Qh5 Qd2 25.Rh3 h6 26.Ree3 Re6 27.Qxh6 Rd8 28.Bf1 Qc1 29.Qh7+ Kf8 30.Rhf3 Rd7 31.Rd3 Nxe5 32.Rxf7+ Nxf7 33.Rxd7 Qg5+ 34.Kh1 Rf6 35.Bc4 Qc1+* Zhang,P (2562)-Ni,H (2390) Perenyi Memorial 2000 (7) 1-0 *)* 6...Na6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bf4 Nc7 9.a4 Bg4 10.Qd2 a6 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Nd7 13.Be2 Rb8 14.Bh6 b5 15.axb5 axb5 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.b4 Chapter 5 - Egoism-Speelman vs. Hartston]

3.Bf4 e6 4.Nb5 Na6 5.e3 Be7 6.Nf3 0-0 7.h4 c5 8.c3 White has an edge.

[8.a4 Bd7 9.Ne5 Nb4 10.g4 a6 11.Nc3 cxd4 12.exd4 Rc8 13.f3 Be8 14.Bd3 Nd7 15.g5 Nxe5

16.Bxe5]

8...Bd7 9.a4 Ne4 0.82/18

[9...c4 10.b3 Qa5 11.bxc4 Bxb5 12.axb5 Qxc3+ 13.Nd2 Nb4 14.Rc1 Nd3+ 15.Bxd3 Qxd3 16.Qe2 dxc4 17.Rxc4 Qa3 18.0-0 Rfc8 19.e4 a5]

[9...Bxb5= 0.26/22 10.axb5 *(10.Bxb5 c4∓)* 10...Nc7]

10.h5 0.27/20

[10.Bd3!± 0.82/18]

10...h6 0.72/17 is cutting edge theory. ist die Avantgarde der Theorie.

[10...c4!= 0.27/20]

11.Ne5 0.13/19

[11.Bd3± 0.72/17]

11...Nb8 0.51/18

[11...cxd4= 0.13/19 deserves consideration. 12.exd4 Bxb5 13.Bxb5 *(13.axb5 Nb8±)* 13...Nb8]

12.Bd3!± a6 13.Na3 0.08/20 White is more active.

[White should play 13.Bxe4± 0.68/23 dxe4 14.Na3]

13...Nc6 0.67/21

[Black should try 13...Ng5= 0.08/20]

14.Bxe4 0.00/23 **dxe4** 0.67/19

[Better is 14...Nxe5= 0.00/23 15.Bb1 Nc6]

15.Nxd7! Qxd7 16.dxc5

[16.Nc4]

16...Rfd8 17.Qxd7 Rxd7 18.Ke2 Strongly threatening Na3-c4. **18...e5** 1.57/24

[18...Bxc5± 0.50/22 19.Nc4 Ne7]

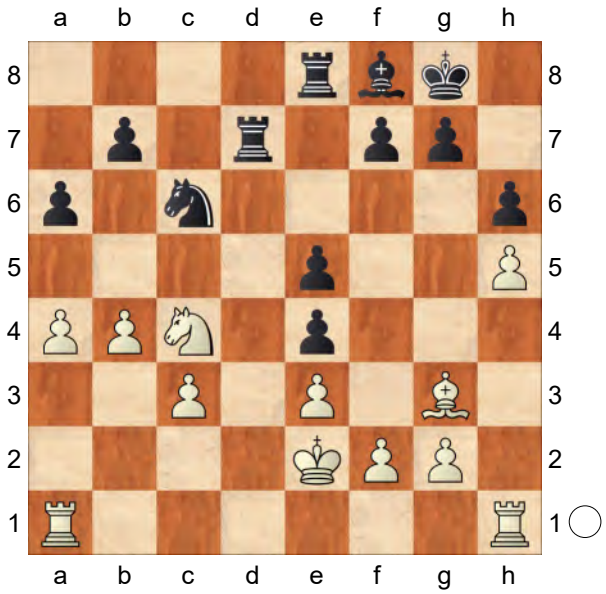
19.Bg3± Bxc5 20.Nc4 Re8 21.b4 Bf8

(Diagram)

22.b5! Na7N 2.01/20

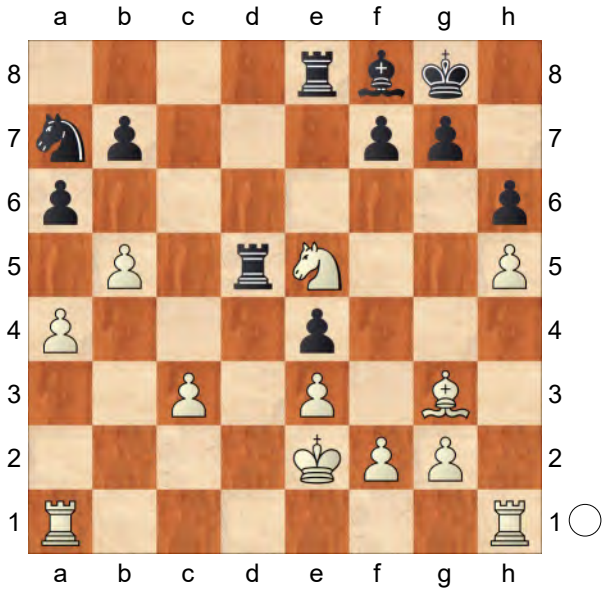
[22...Ne7± 1.56/23 might work better.]

23.Nxe5+-



[Less strong is 23.Bxe5 axb5 24.Nb6 Rdd8=]

23...Rd5



24.Rhd1 1.06/21

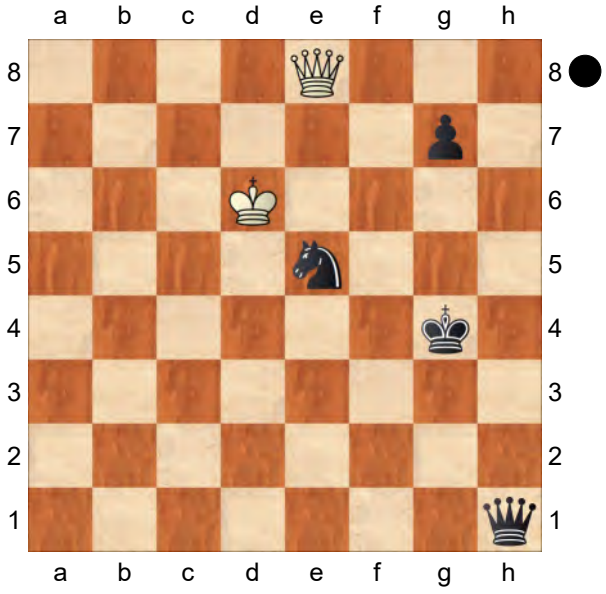
[24.c4!+- 2.36/24 and the rest is easy. Rdxe5 25.Bxe5 Rxe5 26.Rhd1]

24...Rxd1± 25.Kxd1 0.00/30

[25.Rxd1± 1.29/30 Rd1-d7 is the strong threat. axb5 26.Rd5 bxa4 27.Ra5]

25...axb5= 26.Kc2 Bd6 27.Ng4 Bxg3 28.fxg3 Endgame. KRN-KRN **28...Rc8 29.Nf2 f5 30.g4 bxa4 31.gxf5**

[31.Rxa4!? Nb5□ 32.Nd1=]
31...Rc4 32.Rb1 Against Na7-b5 **32...b5 33.Rb4 Rxb4 34.cxb4** KN-KN **34...Nc6 35.Kc3 Ne7 36.Nxe4 Nxf5 37.Kd3 Kf7 38.g4 Ne7 39.Nd6+ Kf6 40.Nxb5 Nd5 41.Nc3 Nxb4+ 42.Kc4 Nc2 43.Kd3! Nb4+ 44.Kc4 Nc6** White must now prevent ...Nc6-e5+. **45.Kd5 Ne7+ 46.Kc4?** -6.91/24
[46.Kd6= -0.13/21]
46...Kg5-+ 47.Nxa4 Kxg4 48.e4 Kxh5 aiming for ...Kh5-g4. **49.Kc5 Kg4** Threatens to win with ...h6-h5. **50.Kd6 Ng6 51.Nc5 h5 52.e5 h4** And now ... h4-h3 would win. **53.e6 h3 54.Nd3 h2 55.Ne5+ Nxe5 56.e7** Black mates. **56...h1Q**
[Weaker is 56...h1R 57.e8Q Re1 58.Qc8+ Kg5 59.Qc5=]
Predecessor: **57.e8Q**



Qc6+! 58.Qxc6 Nxc6 59.Kxc6 g5 Quite a comeback for Black.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=0.14 (very precise) . An unexpected result.Benedetto,D (2305)-Gagliardi,V (2279) ITA-ch74 sf-B email 2021 ½-½
½-½

C70
□ **Zhu,Jiner** **2478**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2632**
Tata Steel-B 84th (9) 25.01.2022
[Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar]

1.e4 Erigaisi, Arjun **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Bc5** An old move which is being tried out in the modern days although not as frequntely as the main Ruy Lopez. Black intends to put his N on e7 here **5.c3** The most challenging move with the intention to strike in the centre immediately.
[5.0-0 d6 is important here as *(5...Nge7 would run into 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.d4±)* 6.c3 Ba7 is how the line continues.]
5...Nge7 6.d4 exd4 7.cxd4 Bb4+ The whole point. If not for this move, Black is close to lost already as White gets a predominant hold of the centre after
[7...Ba7 8.d5]
8.Bd2
[8.Nc3 d5 is another possible line.]
8...Bxd2+ 9.Qxd2
[9.Nbxd2 Safer but also less ambitious. d5]
9...d5 10.exd5 Qxd5
[10...Nxd5 is a possible line which is less risky but also keeps less chances.]
11.Nc3
[11.0-0 is a safer line and White preserves a very little edge after 0-0 12.Nc3]
11...Qe6+ 12.Kf1 The most natural move with the rook swinging over to the e-file and the isolated pawn forking. At first sight it looks like Black is not well coordinated but there is a wonderful resource.

[12.Qe3 was necessary and it ensures that White remains on top in the endgame.]

12...Qc4+ 13.Kg1 Be6! The check followed by this move does not come naturally at all as it looks like queen is getting trapped on c4, but magically nothing is working out for White. **14.Ne5**

[14.a3 does not work due to 0-0-0 15.b3 Nxd4! The whole point. 16.bxc4 Nxf3+ 17.gxf3 Rxd2-+]

[14.b3 Qb4 and we escape with our queen.]

14...Qb4 15.a3 A slightly dubious move in practice in my opinion, as White doesn't get any structural advantage in return for wasting some tempi with the king.

[15.Nxc6 Nxc6 16.Bxc6+ bxc6 17.Rd1 would lead to a double edged game.]

15...Qb6 16.Bxc6+

[16.Nxc6 Nxc6 17.d5 0-0-0 18.Rd1 Ne7 19.Qg5 Qc5 20.h4∞]

16...Nxc6 17.Nxc6 Qxc6! A very smart move. **18.h4?** This was certainly a bad move as Black now gets a dream position where he is more active and White has a weak IQP.

[18.d5 0-0-0 19.Rd1 was necessary as White trades off the queens and liquidates into an endgame where it should be very close to equal but fighting. *(* Black is much better in the endgame after *19.dxc6 Rxd2* due to his activity*)* 19...Qb6 20.Qe3 Qxe3 21.fxe3 Bd7=]

18...0-0-0 19.h5 White tries to get the rook into life from h4. I really love the way I dealt with this. **19...Bd5** Hitting the g2 pawn **20.f3**

[20.Nxd5 Rxd5 21.Rh4 Rhd8 is better for Black as there is a lot of pressure on the d4 and h5 pawns.]

20...Qf6 Preventing the R from coming to h4. **21.Qf2 Bb3** Hitting the d4 pawn. **22.Rh4** and it seems like White achieved what was intended. Doesn't it? **22...Rhe8** Yes, the rook is active now and that is pretty much what White wanted, but now the problem for White is the poor coordination amongst his pieces. Q is paralyzed on f2 as it has to protect h4 and f2, R on a1 struggles to find a good square, N on c3 cannot be moved, and the R on h4 can move but it doesn't really help White. On the other hand, Black's every single piece is very active. **23.Rg4 Qh6** Giving way for the f7-pawn and hitting the P on h5 at the same time. **24.Re1 f5 25.Rh4 Bf7** Nevertheless, Black is still much better.

[25...Rxe1+ 26.Qxe1 Qf6 27.Qf2 It's precise to paralyze White's major pieces completely and only now return with the bishop to put pressure on the h5 pawn. Bf7]

26.Kh2

[26.Rxe8 Rxe8∓]

26...Bxh5 Grabbing the pawn!

[26...Rxe1 27.Qxe1 Bxh5 28.Qe5 *(28.Qe7 g5 29.Rh3 g4)* 28...Qg5 29.Rh3 Re8]

27.Rxe8 Rxe8 28.Qg3

[28.g4 doesn't win the biship because Black has a check along the h2-b8 diagonal. fxg4 29.fxg4 Qd6+-+]

28...Qg6 When up material, trade pieces! **29.Qf4 Qf7** Consolidating the extra pawn by getting everything stable. **30.d5 Bg6 31.d6** White finally gets rid of the weak d-pawn, but it's too late as the damage is already done. **31...Rd8** Liquidating to an endgame. **32.dxc7 Qxc7 33.Qxc7+ Kxc7 34.Ne2** Not a blunder,White tries to do

something concrete which is sensible.
[34.Rc4+ Kb8 is just an extra pawn for Black.]
34...Rd2
[34...h6 35.Rc4+ Kb8 36.Rd4∓]
35.Nf4 Rxb2
[35...Kb6!? 36.Nxg6 hxg6 37.Rh7 Rd7]
36.Nxg6 hxg6 37.Rh7 The whole point.
37...Kb6? I was lured into doing this as it intuitively seemed winning as Black's king is more active.
[37...Rb6 38.Rxg7+ Kb8 Black keeps the extra pawn on the queenside and with some difficulty, this can be converted into a win: 39.Kg3 a5 40.Kf4 a4-+]
38.Rxg7 Ka5 39.Rxg6 Ka4 40.Rg5? This loses because of ...
[40.Rf6! is the only move that holds and the point is after
A) 40...Kxa3 41.Rxf5 b5 42.Kh3 This is holding because Black cannot rush with his b-pawn as it runs into Ra5 and after a5 *(42...b4 43.Ra5+ Kb3 44.Rxa6)* 43.g4 a4 44.g5 White is in time to march his g-pawn: b4 45.g6 Rb1 46.Kg2 *(46.g7 Rg1)* 46...Rb2+ 47.Kh3 Rb1= with a repitition.;
B) 40...Rb5 41.g4 fxg4 42.fxg4 Kxa3 43.Kg3 White seems to be holding as Black's rook comes in the way of his own pawns whereas White's pawn has no obstacle to navigate through.]
40...f4!!
[40...Rb5 41.g4 Rb2+ *(41...fxg4* ends in a forced draw after *42.Rxb5 axb5 43.fxg4 Kxa3 44.g5 b4 45.g6 b3 46.g7 b2 47.g8Q b1Q 48.Qa8+ Kb2 49.Qxb7+ Ka1 50.Qxb1+ Kxb1)* 42.Kg3 fxg4 43.f4! Like before, Black's rook comes in the way of his own pawns and quality over quantity! White's single pawn marches forward very quickly which is enough to hold the game to a draw.]
41.Rf5 Kxa3 42.Rxf4 b5 The difference between this and the other line in which White's R was on f5 is now Black can rush with his b-pawn
43.Kh3
[43.Rf5 is one tempo short: a5 44.Kh3 a4 45.g4 b4 46.g5 Rc2 47.g6 Rc8-+]
43...b4 44.g4 b3 45.Rf5
[45.g5 Rb1 46.Rf6 a5 47.Rb6 b2 48.f4 Rf1-+]
45...Ra2! Another important move! Ensuring that the a-pawn lives **46.g5**
[46.Ra5+ Kb4]
46...b2 47.Rf6 a5 No rush!
[47...b1Q?? would have been a terrible blunder: 48.Rxa6+ Kb3 49.Rb6+ Kc2 50.Rxb1 Kxb1 51.Kg4= and White can make a draw.]
48.Rb6 Ra1 49.f4 b1Q 50.Rxb1 Rxb1 51.g6 Rg1 52.f5 Rg5 White resigned here.
[A possible continuation could have been 52...Rg5 53.Kh4 Rxf5 54.g7 Rf1! 55.g8Q Rh1+ 56.Kg5 Rg1+ 57.Kf6 Rxg8-+]
0-1

E00

□ **Zhu,Jiner** **2478**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2632**
Tata Steel-B 84th (9) 25.01.2022
[Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar]

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6 An old move which is being tried out

in the modern days although not as frequntely as the main Ruy Lopez. Black intends to put his N on e7 here **5.g3** The most challenging move with the intention to strike in the centre immediately. **5...Bb4+ 6.Nd2**

[6.Bd2 Bc5 *(6...Be7 7.Bg2 Nc6 8.Bc3 0-0 9.0-0 d5)* 7.Nb3 Be7 8.Bg2 Nc6 9.Nc3 b6 10.Bf4 Bb7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Bd6 *(12.e4)* 12...Na5 *(12...Ne8)* 13.Nxa5 Bxg2 14.Kxg2 bxa5 15.e4 Rc8 16.b3]

[6.Nc3]

6...Nc6

[6...Qb6]

7.Nc2 Be7 The whole point. If not for this move, Black is close to lost already as White gets a predominant hold of the centre after **8.Bg2 0-0 9.0-0 Rb8**

[9...d5 was necessary as White trades off the queens and liquidates into an endgame where it should be very close to equal but fighting. 10.cxd5

A) 10...Nxd5! The whole point. 11.Nc4 Qc7 12.e4 *(12.N2e3)* 12...Nb6-+ 13.Qe2 Nxc4 and we escape with our queen. 14.Qxc4 was necessary and it ensures that White remains on top in the endgame. Bd7 is a safer line and White preserves a very little edge after 15.Be3 Rfc8 16.Rfd1 is a possible line which is less risky but also keeps less chances. Ne5 Safer but also less ambitious. 17.Qxc7 Rxc7 18.Ne1 is another possible line. Ng4;

B) 10...exd5 11.Nb3 Bf5 12.Ncd4= Black is much better in the endgame after 12...Be4 13.f3 due to his activity *(13.Bh3)* 13...Bg6 14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.Be3 Re8 16.Rc1 Qd7 17.Qd2 Rab8∞ 18.Nc5 *(18.Bc5* does not work due to *Qb7)* 18...Bxc5 19.Bxc5 Qe6 20.Rfe1 would lead to a double edged game.]

[9...a6 10.b3 is important here as b5 11.Nd4 is how the line continues. Qb6 would run into 12.Nxc6 dxc6 13.Ne4± bxc4 *(13...Nxe4 14.Bxe4)* 14.bxc4 Rd8 15.Qc2 Ra7 *(15...Rb8 16.c5)* 16.Rb1 Qc7 17.c5]

[9...b6 10.b3 Bb7 11.Bb2 Qc7 *(11...d6 12.e3 Qc7 13.Qe2 a6 14.Rac1 Nb8 15.e4 Nbd7 16.Nd4 Rfe8 17.Rfd1 Rac8 18.b4 Qb8 19.f4)* 12.e4 d6 13.Ne3 Rad8 14.Qe2 Qb8 15.f4 Qa8 16.Rad1 Nb8 17.f5]

10.Ne4

[10.Nb3!? b5 *(10...d6 11.Bf4)* 11.c5 a5 *(11...Qc7 12.Bf4 e5 13.Bg5* is better for Black as there is a lot of pressure on the d4 and h5 pawns.*)* 12.Ncd4 Qc7 *(12...Nxd4 13.Qxd4 a4* It's precise to paralyze White's major pieces completely and only now return with the bishop to put pressure on the h5 pawn. *14.Bf4)* 13.Bd2 *(13.a4 bxa4 14.Nxc6 dxc6 15.Rxa4 Rd8 16.Qc2∓ Rb5)* 13...a4 14.Nxc6∓ dxc6 15.Na5 is just an extra pawn for Black. Bd7 doesn't win the bishop because Black has a check along the h2-b8 diagonal. 16.Qc2 e5 17.b4-+ Rfd8 18.Rad1 Nd5 19.e4 Nf6 20.Bc3]

10...b5

[10...Nxe4 11.Bxe4 b5 12.cxb5 Rxb5 13.Bxh7+= with a repitition. Kxh7 14.Qd3+ Rf5 15.g4 Ba6 16.Qxa6 *(16.Qh3+ Kg8* Black keeps the extra pawn on the queenside and with some difficulty, this can be

converted into a win: *17.gxf5 Bxe2 18.Re1 Ba6-+)* 16...Rf6]

11.cxb5

[11.Bf4 e5 12.Bd2 bxc4]

[11.Nxf6+ Bxf6 12.c5 Qc7 13.Bf4 Ne5 14.Nb4 Bb7 *(14...Qxc5 15.Nd3 Nxd3 16.Qxd3 e5* White seems to be holding as Black's rook comes in the way of his own pawns whereas White's pawn has no obstacle to navigate through. *17.Be3 Qc7 18.Rac1 Qa5* This is holding because Black cannot rush with his b-pawn as it runs into Ra5 and after *19.Bc5 Re8 20.Bd6 Rb6* White is in time to march his g-pawn: *21.Bc7)* 15.Bxb7 Qxb7 16.Nd3 Nxd3! is the only move that holds and the point is after 17.Qxd3]

11...Rxb5 12.Nd6 The most natural move with the rook swinging over to the e-file and the isolated pawn forking. At first sight it looks like Black is not well coordinated but there is a wonderful resource. **12...Bxd6**

[12...Rb8 ends in a forced draw after 13.b3 Ba6 14.Ba3]

13.Qxd6 Bb7! The check followed by this move does not come naturally at all as it looks like queen is getting trapped on c4, but magically nothing is working out for White. **14.Na3**

[14.b3 Ne7! Like before, Black's rook comes in the way of his own pawns and quality over quantity! White's single pawn marches forward very quickly which is enough to hold the game to a draw.]

14...Rb6 15.Be3 A slightly dubious move in practice in my opinion, as White doesn't get any structural advantage in return for wasting some tempi with the king.

[15.Nc4 Ra6 16.Bd2 Ne7 17.Qd3 Bxg2 18.Kxg2-+ Qa8+ 19.f3 d5 20.Ne5]

15...Rxb2 16.Bc5 Re8 17.Rab1

[17.Nc4 Rxe2 *(17...Rb5 18.a4 Rb3-+ 19.Qd1* is one tempo short: *Rc3 20.Nd6)* 18.Qd3 Ba6 19.Qxe2 d5]

17...Rxb1! A very smart move.

18.Rxb1? This was certainly a bad move as Black now gets a dream position where he is more active and White has a weak IQP. **18...Ba6 19.Nb5** White tries to get the rook into life from h4. I really love the way I dealt with this. **19...Bxb5** Hitting the g2 pawn **20.Rxb5 Qc8** Preventing the R from coming to h4. **21.a4 h6** Hitting the d4 pawn. **22.Ba3** and it seems like White achieved what was intended. Doesn't it? **22...Qa6** Yes, the rook is active now and that is pretty much what White wanted, but now the problem for White is the poor coordination amongst his pieces. Q is paralyzed on f2 as it has to protect h4 and f2, R on a1 struggles to find a good square, N on c3 cannot be moved, and the R on h4 can move but it doesn't really help White. On the other hand, Black's every single piece is very active. **23.Bb2 Qxa4** Giving way for the f7-pawn and hitting the P on h5 at the same time. **24.Bxc6 dxc6 25.Rb4 Qa5** Nevertheless,Black is still much better. **26.Bxf6 gxf6** Grabbing the pawn! **27.Rg4+ Kh7 28.Qxc6 Rd8** When up material, trade pieces! **29.Qc2+**

[29.Ra4 Qe1+ White resigned here. *(29...Qb6 30.Qc2+ f5 31.e4 fxe4 32.Rxe4 f5=* and White can make a draw. *33.Rc4)* A possible continuation could have been 30.Kg2 Rd1 31.Qc7 Qh1+ *(31...Kg6-+ 32.Rg4+??*

would have been a terrible blunder:*)* 32.Kh3! Qf1+ 33.Kh4 Qxf2 34.Qxf7+ Kh8]

29...f5 Consolidating the extra pawn by getting everything stable. **30.Ra4 Qe1+ 31.Kg2** White finally gets rid of the weak d-pawn, but it's too late as the damage is already done. **31...Rd1** Liquidating to an endgame. **32.Qc7 Kg6 33.Kf3 Qh1+ 34.Ke3** Not a blunder,White tries to do something concrete which is sensible. **34...Ra1 35.Qc2 Rxa4 36.Qxa4 Qc1+ 37.Kf3** The whole point. **37...Qc3+?** I was lured into doing this as it intuitively seemed winning as Black's king is more active. **38.Kg2 a5 39.g4 Qe5 40.gxf5+?** This loses because of ... **40...Kxf5!! 41.Qe8 Kg6 42.Qf8 a4** The difference between this and the other line in which White's R was on f5 is now Black can rush with his b-pawn **43.e3 Qe4+ 44.Kg3 Qd3 45.h4 a3!** Another important move! Ensuring that the a-pawn lives **46.Kh2 Qf5 47.Qxa3 Qxf2+** No rush! **48.Kh3 Qf3+ 49.Kh2 Kh5 50.Qf8 Qf2+ 51.Kh1 Kg4 0-1**

A45

□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2633**
■ **Ayush,Sharma** **2302**

Indian Championship, Kanpur (2.2)
[Richard Palliser]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.d5 Ne4

[A sensible choice, although you do have to wonder why Black didn't prefer 2...Ne4 if he wants to play this way. One reason is to bypass the 3 Bf4 c5 4 f3 lines (4 d5 would be our main game here), and in any case I'd certainly prefer the text move as Black to 3...Qb6 when 4.Nc3 is, of course, the Vaganian Gambit, as seen in a couple of fairly high-level blitz games of late: Qxb2 *(4...d6 5.e4 g6?!* is just a Schmid Benoni with Black's queen misplaced, as in Erigaisi-Martirosyan, Internet (blitz) 2022, where *6.Bb5+ Nbd7 7.a4 a6 8.a5! Qc7 9.Be2 Bg7 10.Nf3 0-0 11.Nd2 b5 12.axb6 Nxb6 13.0-0* left White in control and with a very pleasant edge, not least with the f-pawn primed to advance *)* 5.Bd2 Qb6 6.e4 d6 7.f4 g6? 8.Nf3 Bg7 9.e5 Nfd7 10.Rb1 Qc7 11.Nb5! Qd8 12.exd6 0-0! 13.Nc7 exd6 14.Nxa8 Nf6 15.Be2 Nxd5 16.0-0 gave Black some but not enough compensation for the exchange, with f4-f5 this time high on the agenda in Bacrot-Petrovskyi, Internet (blitz) 2022.]

4.Bf4 Qb6

[Curiously Erigaisi has also faced another long-out-of-fashion line in 4...e6 5.f3 Bd6!? of late. It may not be too topical, but does still seem fine for Black, with 6.Bxd6 Nxd6 7.Nc3 b5 8.e4 b4 9.Nb5!? *(9.Na4 Qc7 10.Qd2 0-0* seemed OK for Black in Yakubboev-Sindarov, Uzbek Championship, Tashkent 2021, as we've noted before*)* 9...Nxb5 10.Bxb5 Qb6 11.Bc4 Ba6 12.Qd3 exd5?! *(* allowing White to take control *12...0-0 13.Ne2 Bxc4 14.Qxc4 Na6* followed by ... Nc7 is likely OK for Black *)* 13.Qxd5 Bxc4 14.Qxc4 Nc6 15.Ne2 0-0 16.0-0 favouring White thanks to the hole on d5 in Erigaisi-Tabatabaei, Internet (blitz) 2022.]

5.Bc1 g6 6.f3 Nd6!?

[This doesn't seem to equalise according to the latest engines and

theory, but then again neither does 6...Nf6 7.e4 Bg7 8.c4 followed by Ng1-e2-c3 with a likely improved version of the Sâ misch variation for White.]

7.e4 Bg7 8.Nd2?!

[Presumably Erigaisi was caught out, as this doesn't seem especially good. Instead, the main line has been considered to be 8.Nc3 f5 9.exf5 Nxf5 - see the Archive for Eric's thorough coverage, and do also note that the latest engines rather like 10.g4!? for White.]

[There's also 8.c3!? and after 0-0 9.Nh3 *(*I still feel that *9.h4! f5 10.h5* makes good sense too, since *fxe4 11.hxg6 hxg6 12.Nd2* leaves Black's kingside looking rather vulnerable*)* 9...f5 10.exf5 Nxf5 11.Na3 Na6 12.Be2 Nc7 (Kindermann-Derakhshani, Munich (rapid) 2016) 13.0-0! d6 14.g4!? White is for choice, as we've noted before.]

8...0-0

[Calm and sensible, although I dare say that Black could also consider the immediate 8...e6!? .]

9.Bd3

[9.f4!? would be both more active and also battle for the key c4 point. It's also been tried before, with e6 10.e5 Nf5 11.Nc4 Qd8 12.dxe6 dxe6 *(* would the 2022 version of MVL prefer *12...d5!? 13.exf7+ Rxf7* with promising compensation?*)* 13.Qxd8 Rxd8 14.c3 b6 15.Nf3 Bb7 16.Be2 seen in Bauer-Vachier Lagrave, French Championship, Pau 2012, where h5 would have restricted White to a small edge thanks to his bridgehead on e5 and the hole on d6.]

9...f5!?

[Black decides to break before White rolls with f3-f4 and e4-e5, which makes good sense, although it seems that 9...e6! would have been even stronger: 10.c3 *(* this restrained choice seems necessary or at least *10.c4?! exd5 11.cxd5 Na6* and only then ...f5 leaves Black very actively placed*)* 10...exd5 11.exd5 Re8+ 12.Ne2 Qc7 and with ...b5 and ...c4 both high on the agenda, Black must be at least OK.]

10.c4 e5?

[Blocking the centre, Czech Benoni style, gives White too much time to get organised and also leaves Black struggling for counterplay. A young MVL had preferred 10...fxe4 11.fxe4 Nf7 and after 12.Ngf3 d6 13.0-0 Nd7 14.Rb1 Nf6 he had regrouped whilst obtaining a comfortable set-up in Pankov-Vachier Lagrave, Russian Team Championship 2009.]

11.Ne2

[Even 11.exf5!? gxf5 *(*or *11...Nxf5 12.Ne4)* 12.Ne2 is promising for White according to the engines, and no surprise - just what is that knight doing on d6?]

11...f4

[Further closing the position so seems sensible. You might also wonder about regrouping with 11...Qd8 12.Nc3 Ne8 , but after 13.exf5! gxf5 14.0-0 d6 15.Kh1! the g2-g4 break is high on White's agenda and he just seems to be doing pretty well from what I can see.]

12.Nc3 Qd8 13.Qe2 Nf7

[Finally conceding that the knight has to move if Black is to coordinate his queenside forces. Instead, 13...Qh4+

14.Qf2 *(14.Kd1!?* is also possible as per the game*)* 14...Qxf2+ 15.Kxf2 followed by a2-a3 and b2-b4 would have left White beginning to expand.]

14.b3 d6 15.Bb2 Not the most active role for the bishop you might think, but just watch what happens. **15...Qh4+ 16.Kd1!? g5**

[16...Qe7 17.Kc2 h5!? is preferred by the engines, although even here White seems definitely for choice after 18.g3 .]

17.Kc2 The king is perfectly safe here and now, despite Black's advances, it is White who will look to attack on the kingside. **17...g4**

[Likewise, 17...Qh6 18.Rag1 Kh8 19.g3 Bh3 20.Nd1! just seems to leave Black in long-term trouble on the king's flank.]

18.Rag1 Erigaisi knows exactly what his plan is: to rip open lines against the king on g8. **18...Na6 19.a3 Ng5 20.Nb5!** Not just awkwardly for Black is d6 now attacked, but the bishop on b2 has been unfurled. **20...Rf6 21.g3!** Crowning White's strategy. Ayush has been completely outplayed. **21...Qh5**

[21...Qh6 would have avoided dropping d6, but after 22.gxf4 Rxf4 23.fxg4 Nh3 24.Rg3 the result surely wouldn't have changed.]

22.gxf4 Rxf4 23.Nxd6! Further good judgement from Erigaisi. Black will obtain a protected passed pawn on f3, but of far greater importance is the open g-file and the central gains White has just made. **23...gxf3 24.Qe3 Bh3** Desperately trying to prevent h2-h4, but now White is able to pivot and eye the key defensive piece on g7. **25.Nf5**

[It was also possible to force matters: 25.Bxe5!? Bxe5 26.Nxf3 Rxf3 27.Qxg5+ Qxg5 28.Rxg5+ Kf8 29.Rxe5 and wins.]

25...Bf6 26.Rg3

[Simple chess, but White might have crowned his strategic masterpiece in style with 26.Qxf4!! exf4 27.Bxf6 , and if Bg2 28.h4 Nf7 29.Rh2 followed by Nxf3 or Kf8? 30.Be7+ Ke8 31.Ng7+ .]

26...Bg2

[26...Kf8!? 27.Rhg1 h6 would still have left White with a bit of work to do.]

27.Rg1

[And here 27.h4!? Bxh1 28.hxg5 Bh8 29.Bf1 would have been a more vigorous route to overwhelming the defence.]

27...Qxh2 28.Qf2 Kf8 29.Rxg5! Finally White sacrifices and Black's game immediately folds on the dark squares. **29...Bxg5 30.Bxe5 Re8 31.Bd6+ Kf7 32.Nxf3!**

[Crushing, as would have been 32.e5!? .]

32...Rxf3 33.Qxf3 Qxg1 34.Qh5+ Kf6 35.e5+! The key check. Erigaisi has spotted that only one king is in serious trouble, and it isn't White's. **35...Rxe5 36.Bxe5+ Kxe5 37.Qxg5 Qf2+ 38.Kc3 Qe1+ 39.Kb2 Qf2+ 40.Bc2** The checks are over for Black and White's discovery finally about to be realised. **40...Bf3 41.Nh4+**

1-0